



phoenix

NOSTALGIA



BY OSAMU TEZUKA

Phoenix: Nostalgia
Vol. 6
VIZ Signature Edition

STORY AND ART BY
OSAMU TEZUKA

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A message to our readership:

Some of the phrasing and expressions in the work you are about to read reflect the time and context in which it was originally created and thus might not be in accordance with present standards. The author had an unflinching dedication to conveying several themes through the art of manga, such as the importance of nature, love and peace; a warning against the idolization of science, and the preciousness of life. It is clear that at the root of his work there is a strong belief in the power of human love overall.

We believe that publishing a faithful translation is essential to accurately conveying the message within the work itself as intended by the author, as well as protecting its integrity as a part of Japan's cultural heritage and preserving it for future generations. We therefore appreciate your understanding as you enjoy this work of art.

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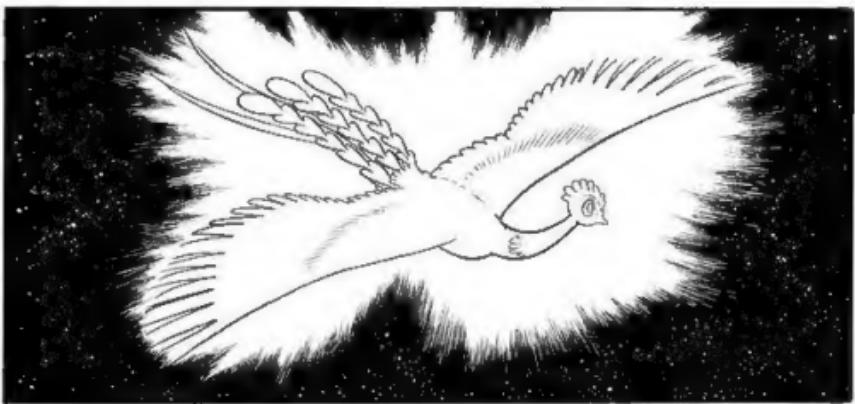
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PARENTAL ADVISORY
PHOENIX is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence and nudity.
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PEOPLE CALL ME THE "PHOENIX."
IT IS TRUE THAT I LOOK LIKE A
BIRD, BUT THAT IS ONLY HOW I
APPEAR TO HUMAN EYES. MY TRUE
FORM IS... WELL... IN REALITY I'M
ONLY A SMALL BIT OF THE LIFE
FORCE IN THE COSMOS...





I HAVE MET ALL KINDS OF
CREATURES ON ALL KINDS
OF PLANETS, THROUGHOUT
THE FARTHEST REACHES OF
THE UNIVERSE.

BUT I SHALL NEVER FORGET TINY
EDEN IT, AND THE WOMAN WHO
MADE HISTORY THERE, ONLY
TO BE DESTROYED ALONG
WITH THE PLANET.

phoenix

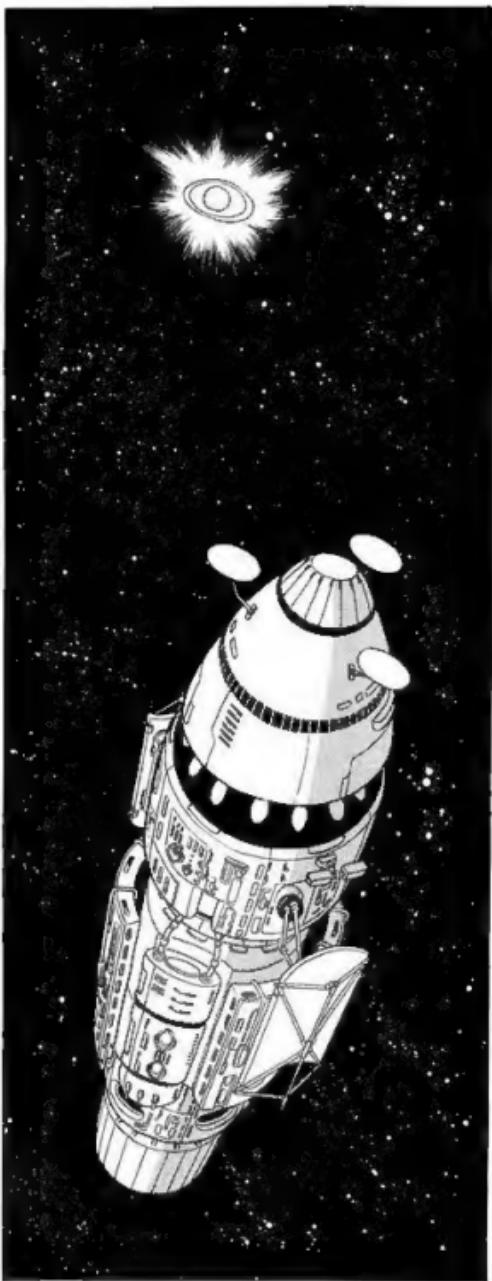
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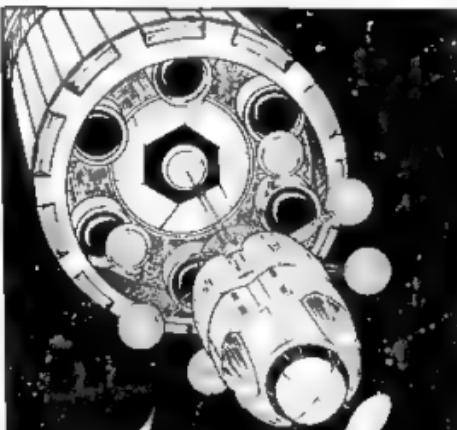
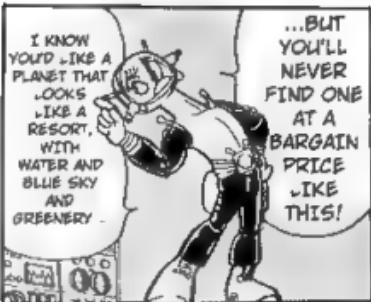
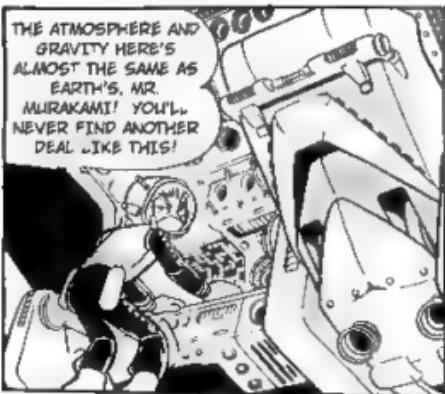


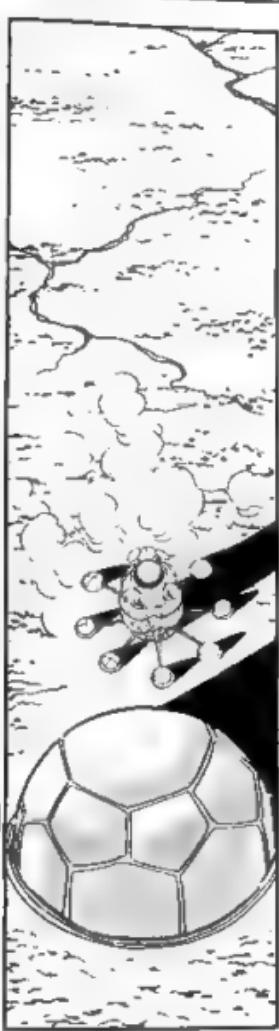
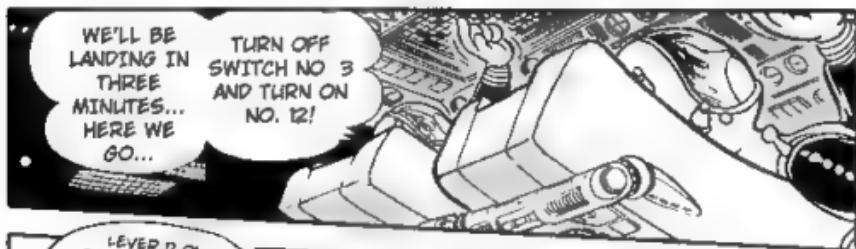
NOSTALGIA



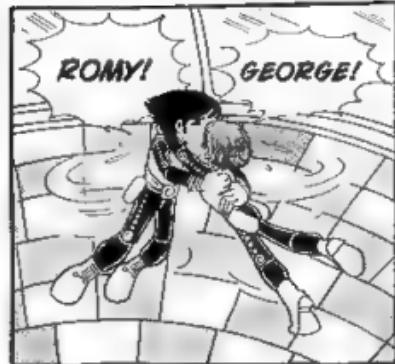
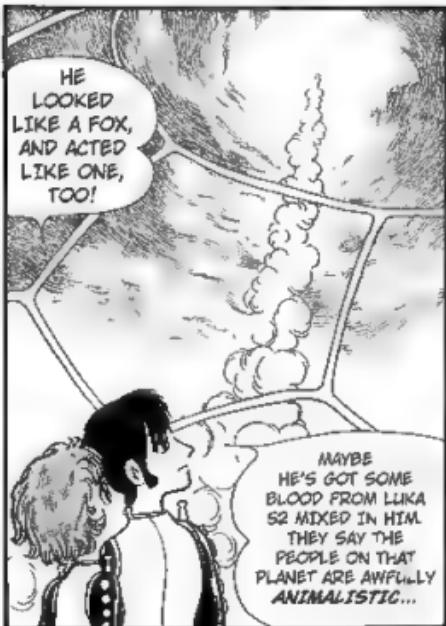
THE WOMAN WAS AN
EARTHLING, AND AS I
RECALL SHE CALLED
HERSELF "ROMY." I KNEW
HER FROM THE TIME
SHE ARRIVED ON EDEN 17.
IT WAS A PARCHED,
EARTHQUAKE-
RIDDEN PLACE...

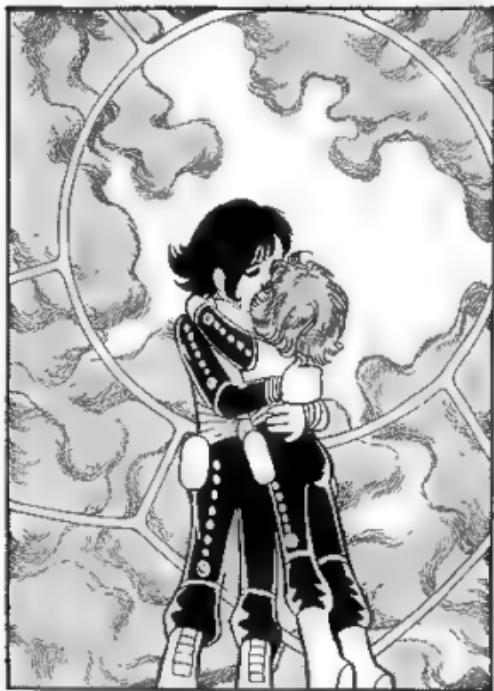


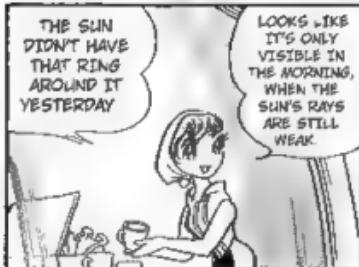
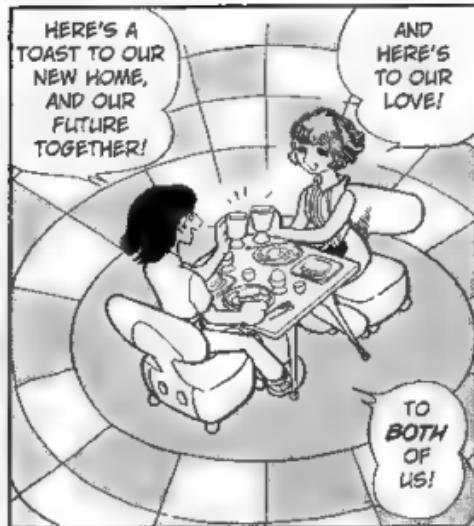




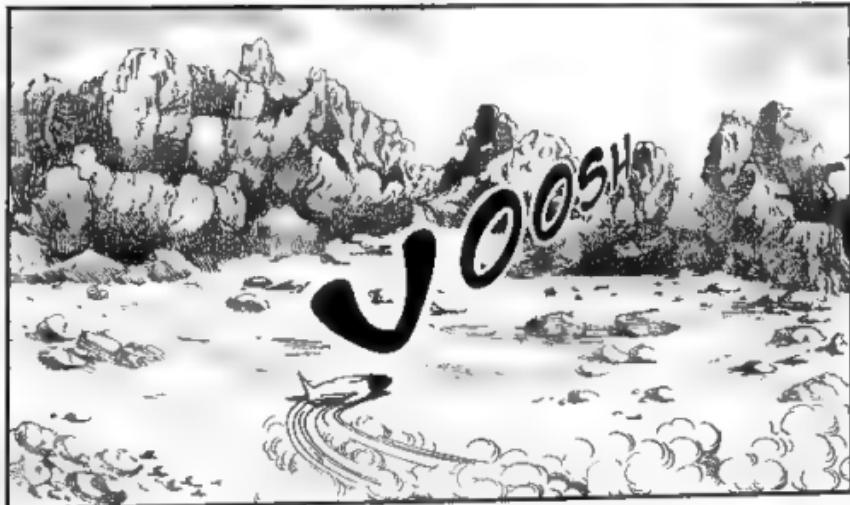


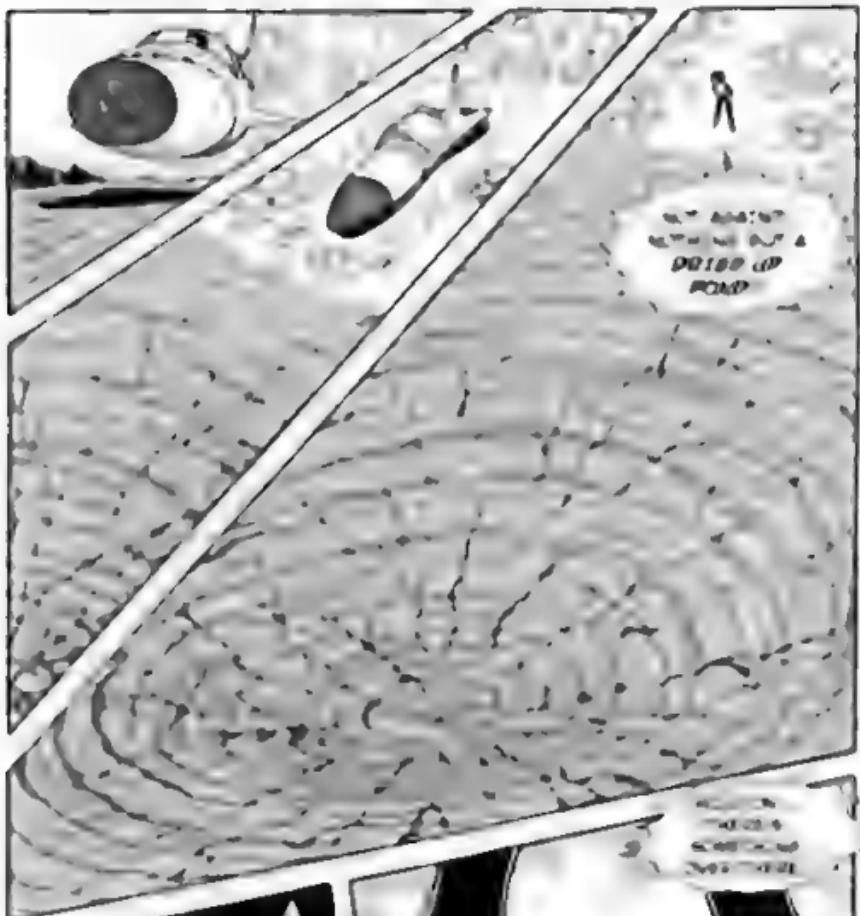




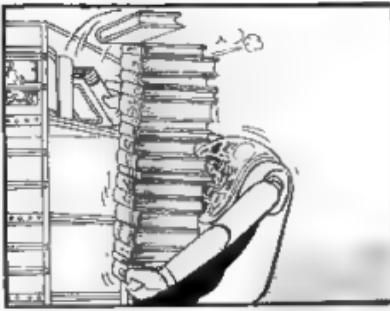
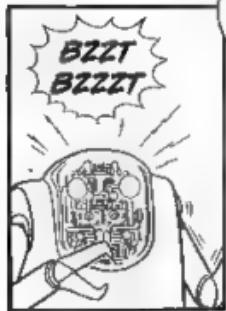
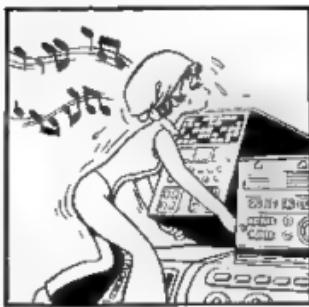


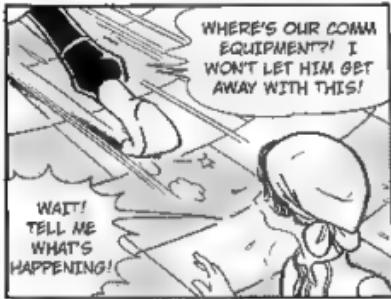
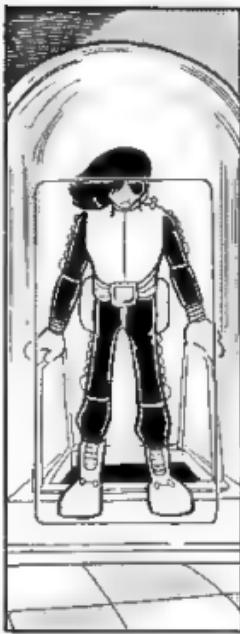


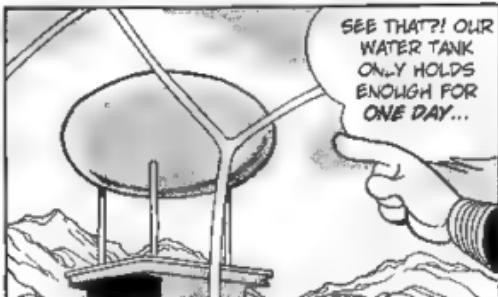
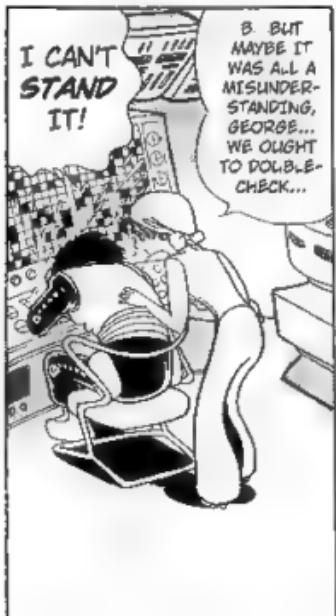




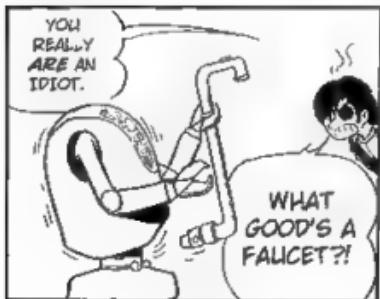


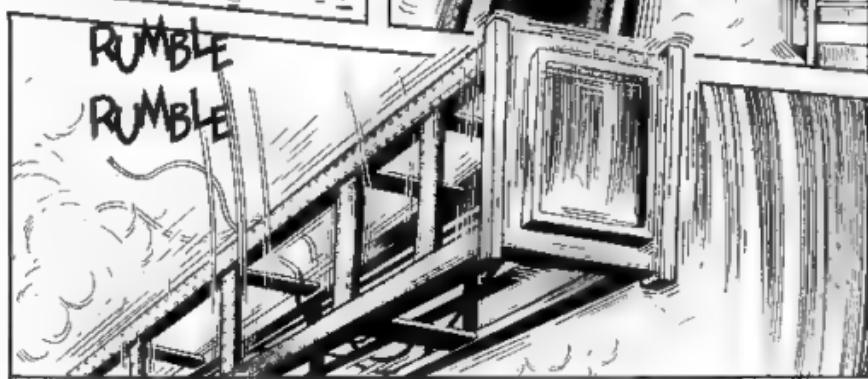
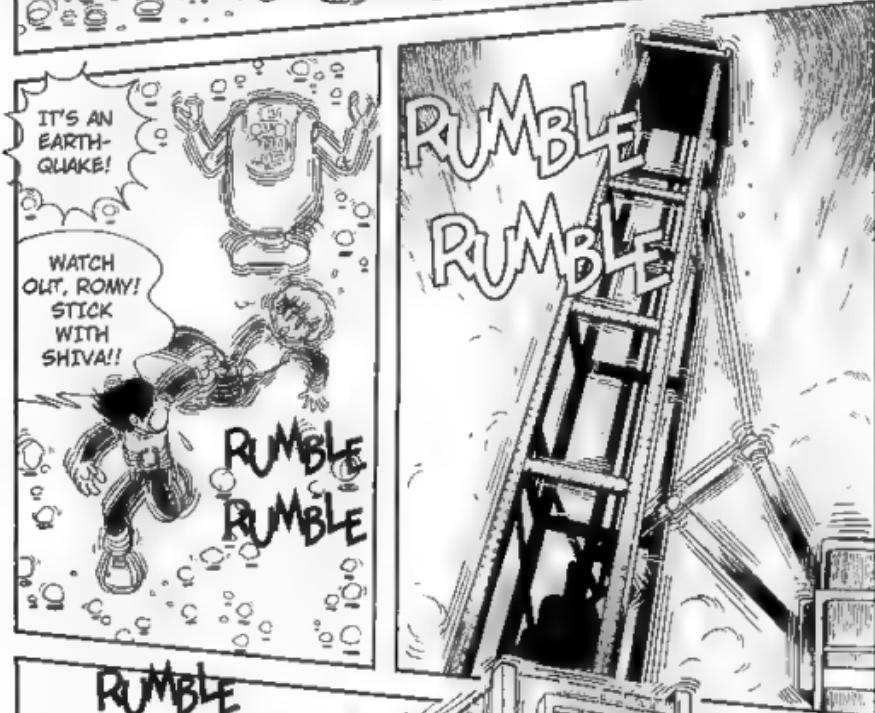












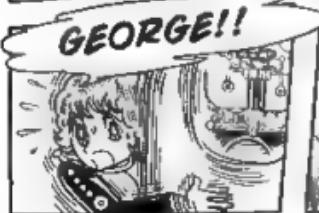
KERSMASH



OH MY GOD!!

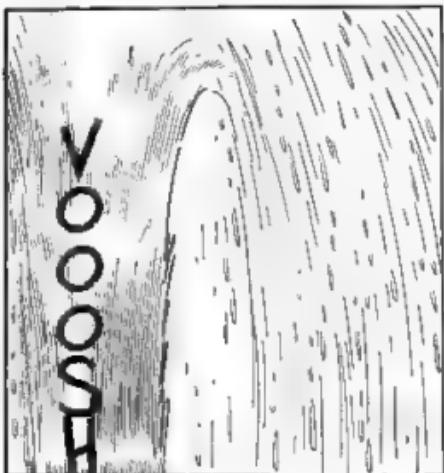


GEORGE!!



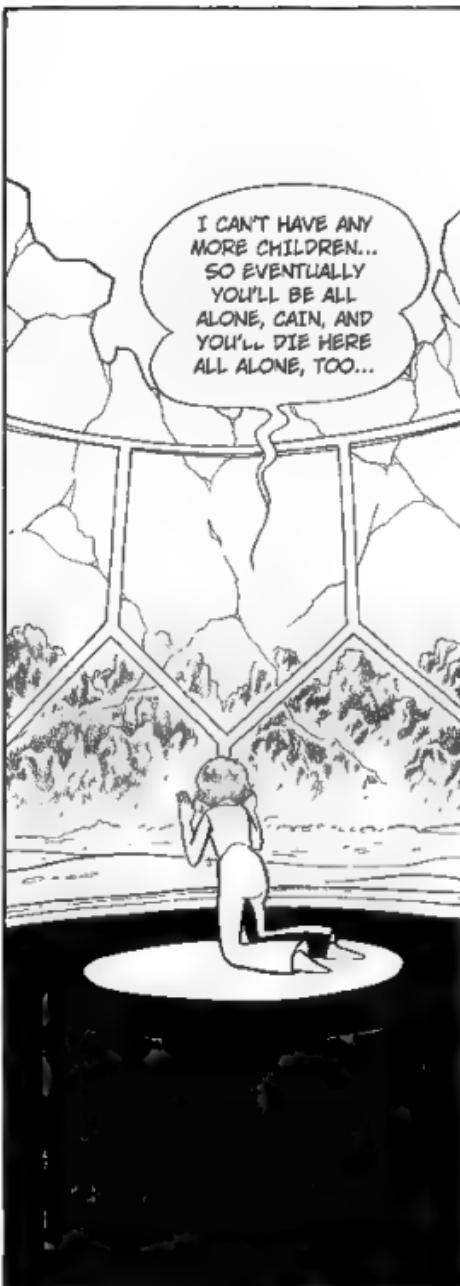
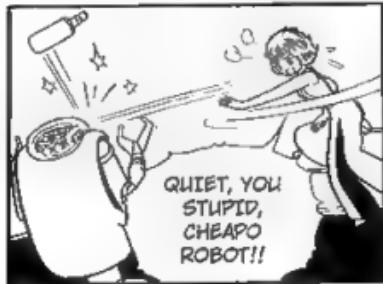
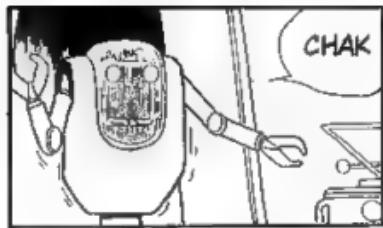
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

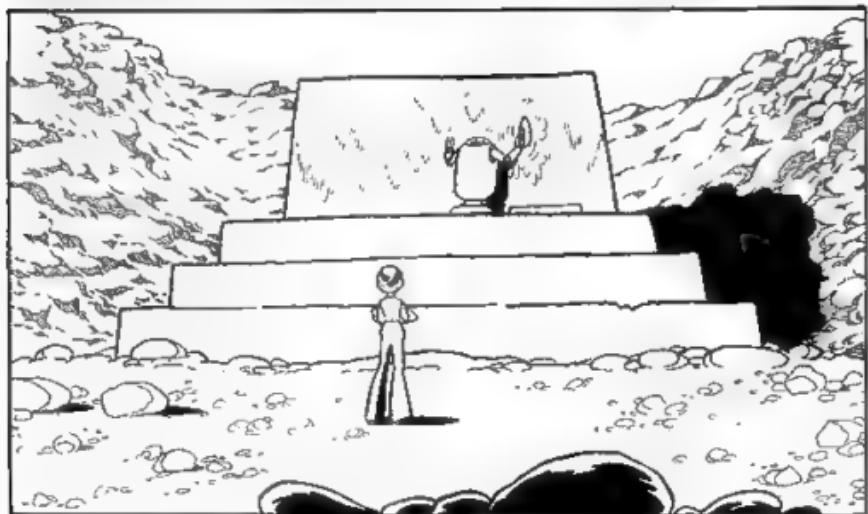
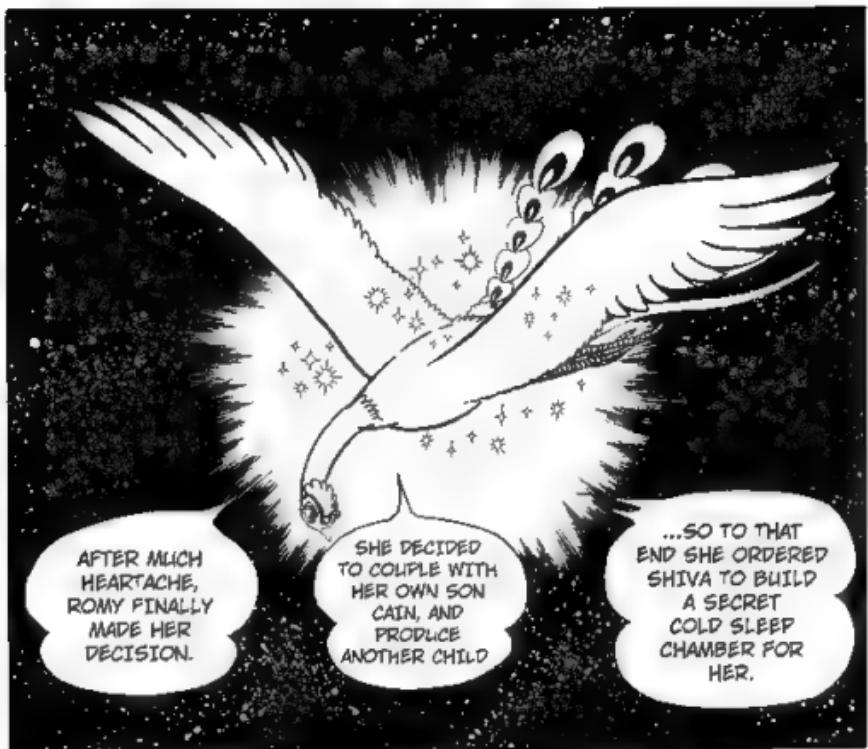


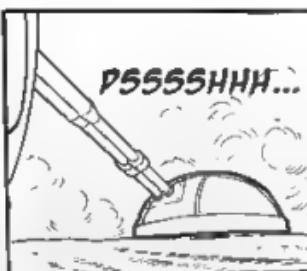
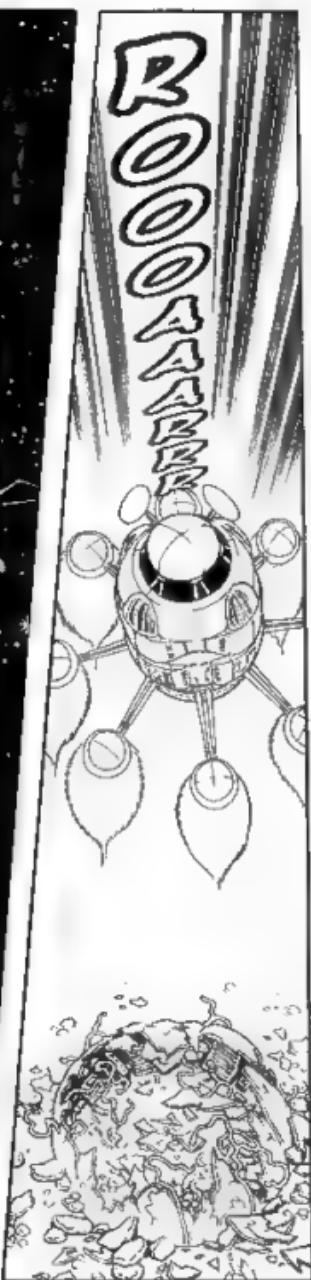
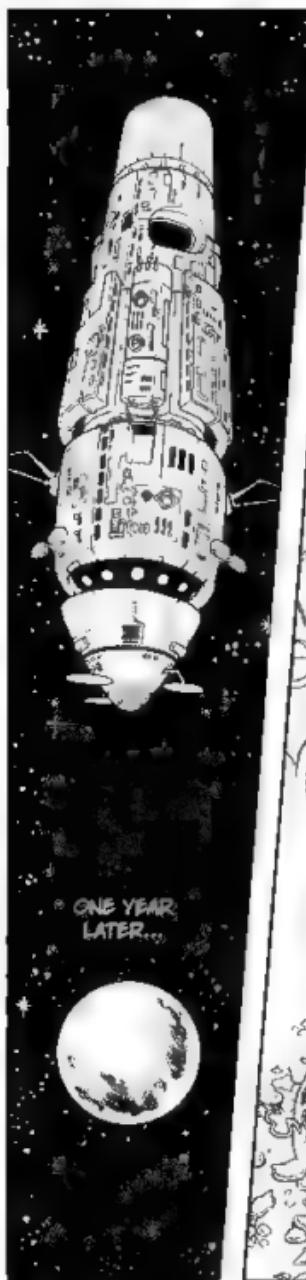














EVER SINCE
LAYING EYES ON
YOU, I'VE FOUND
YOU TERRIBLY
ATTRACTIVE...

SO, PERHAPS
WE COULD LIVE
ON THIS
PLANET
TOGETHER!

...WE
COULD
EVEN BE
MARRIED!

TAKE
YOUR
HANDS
OFF
ME...

JUST
SAY THE WORD,
AND I SWEAR
I'LL TREAT YOU
WELL...

I THINK
IT'S A
GREAT
IDEA...
HOW ABOUT
IT? HEH
HEH ..

FRANKLY, I'M
QUITE TAKEN
BY YOU . IN
LOVE, IN
FACT!

...ESPECIALLY
WOMEN
LIVING ALL
ALONE ON A
PLANET LIKE
THIS!

HEH HEH...
WOMEN ARE
SUCH WEAK
CREATURES...

WHAT
THE?!

WAHAH
WAHAH

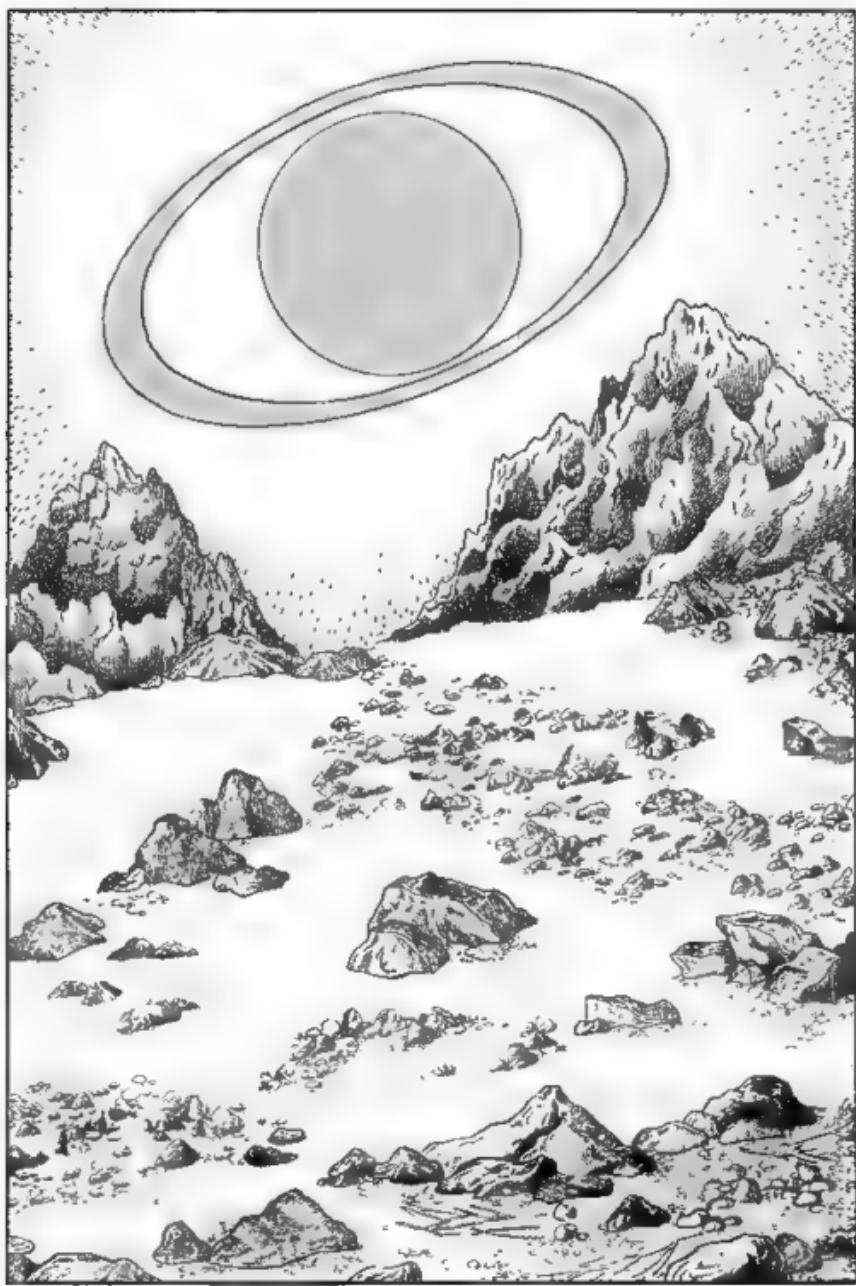
I THINK
I HEAR A
BABY
CRYING!



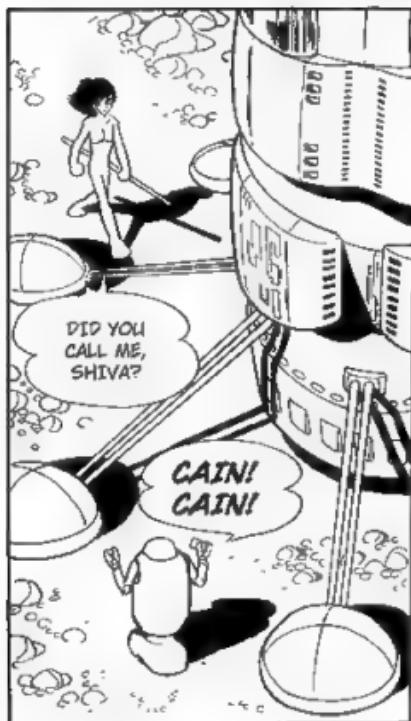


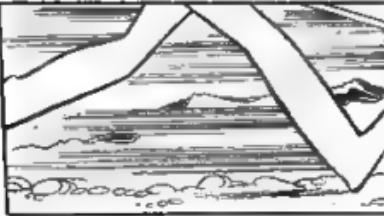
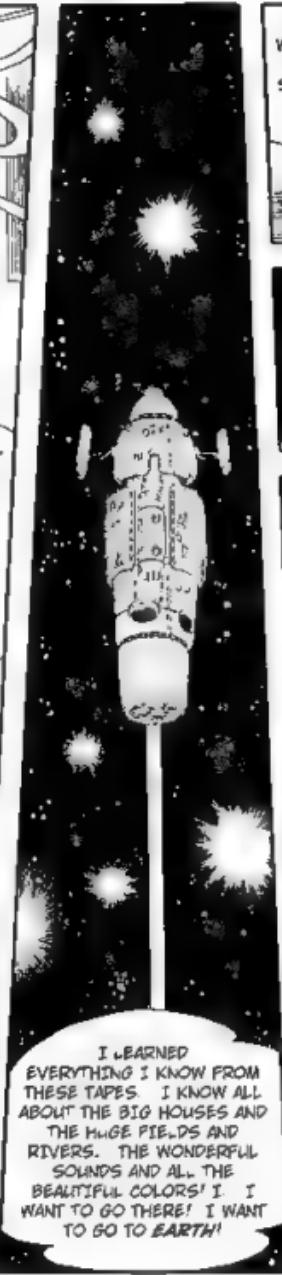
AND WITH THAT...

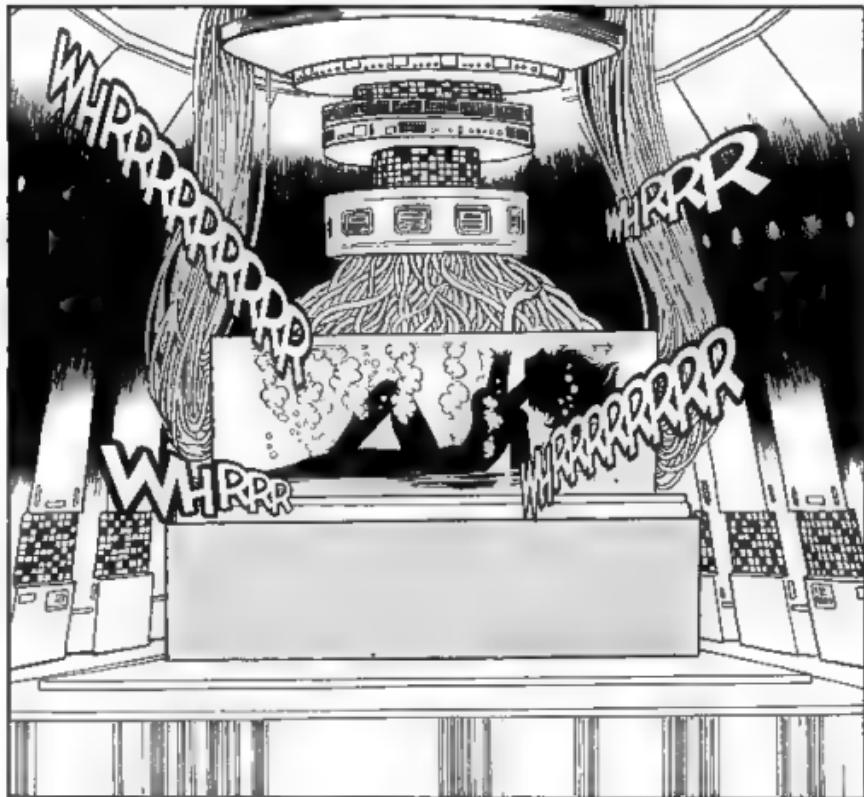


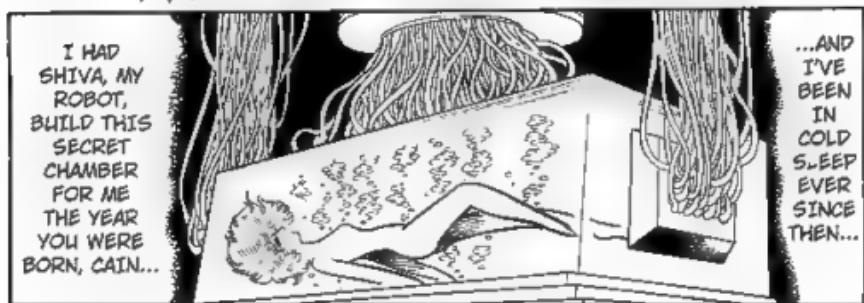
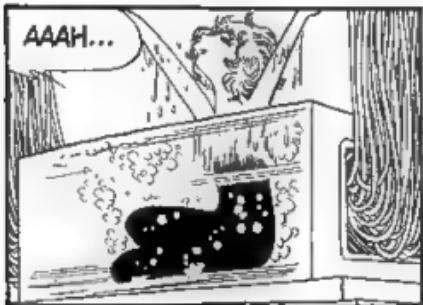


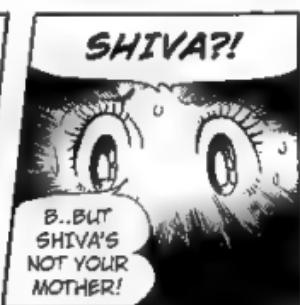




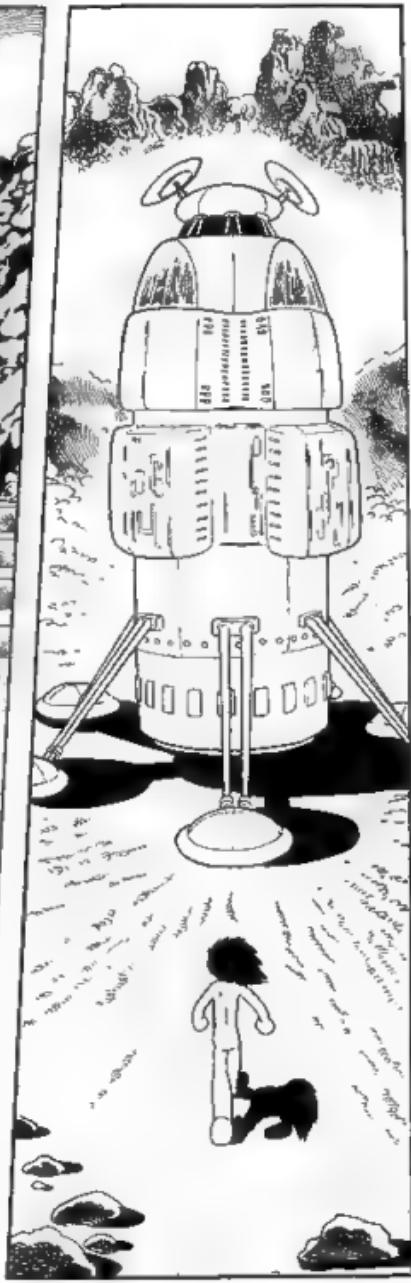
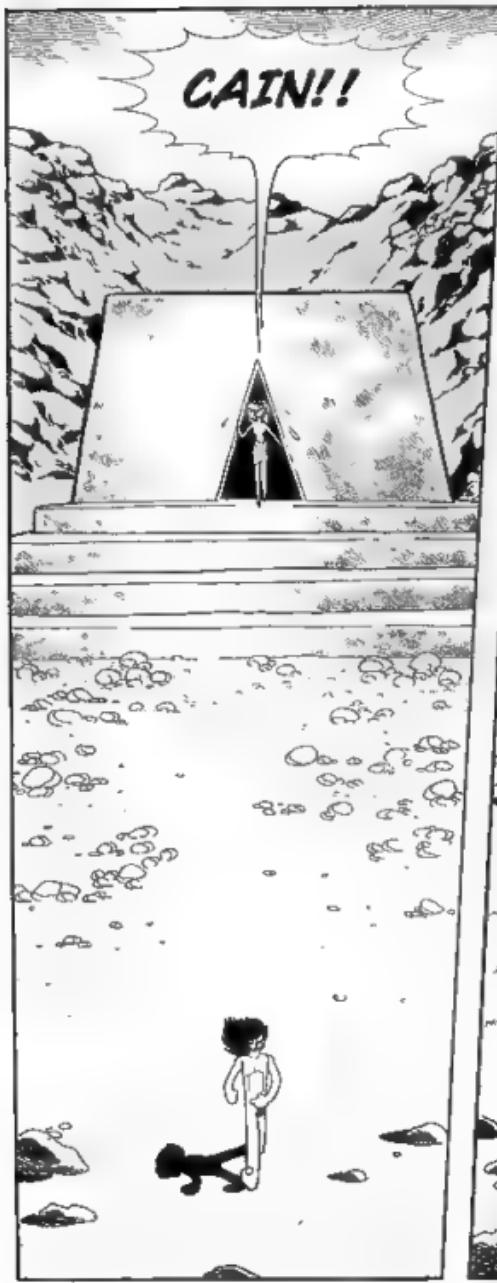












CAIN, STOP!

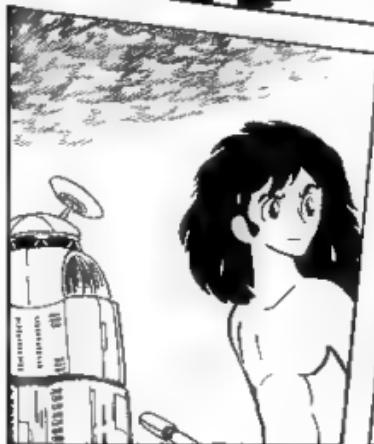
I SAID,
"STOP"!

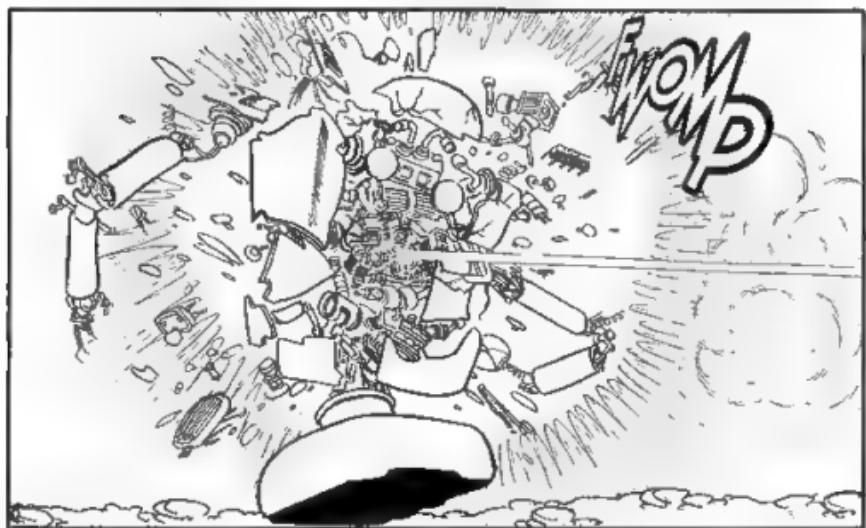
WHAT?

LISTEN TO
ME CAIN...
I'M YOUR
REAL
MOTHER!

I LEFT YOU
WITH SHIVA
BEFORE I
WENT INTO
COLD
SLEEP...

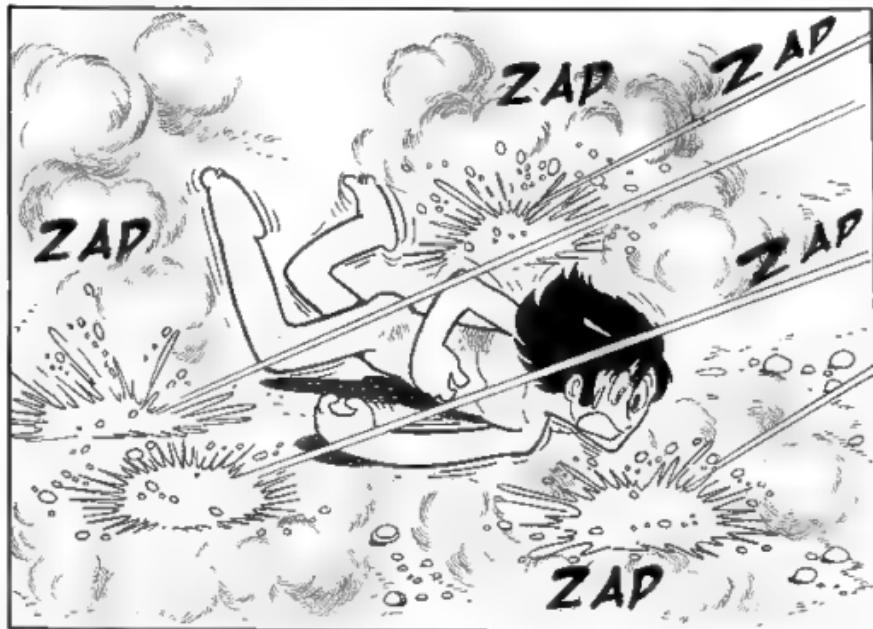
SHIVA
RAISED
YOU AS I
ORDERED!

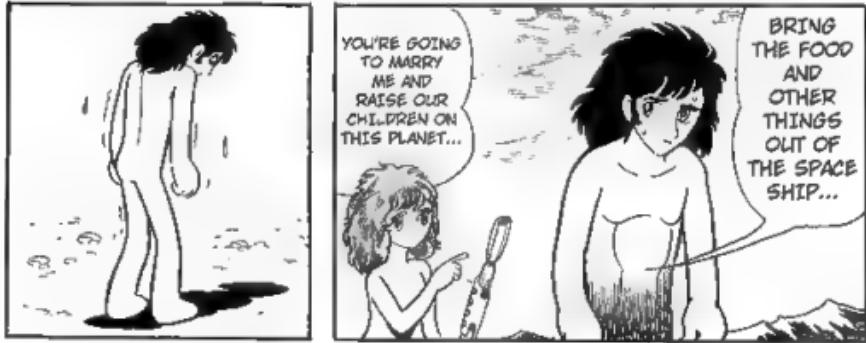


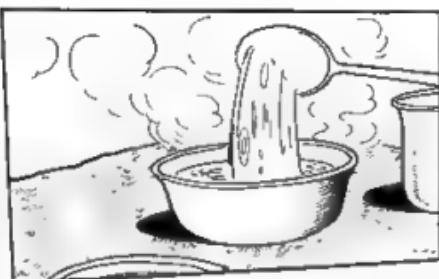


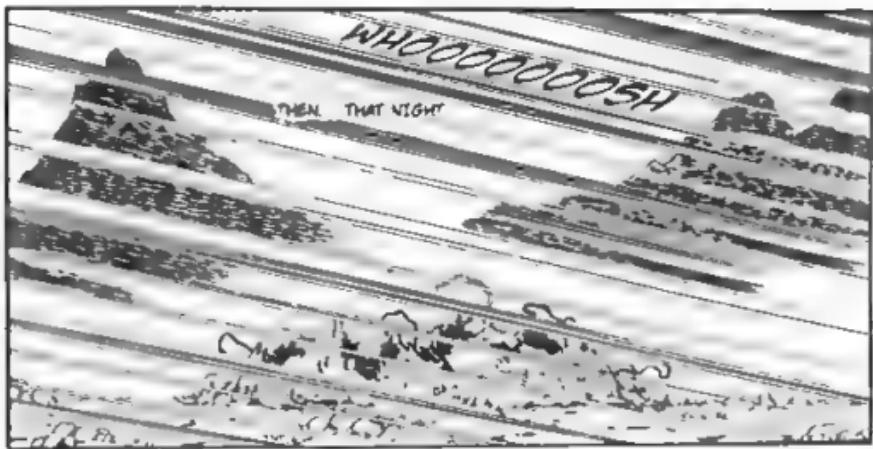


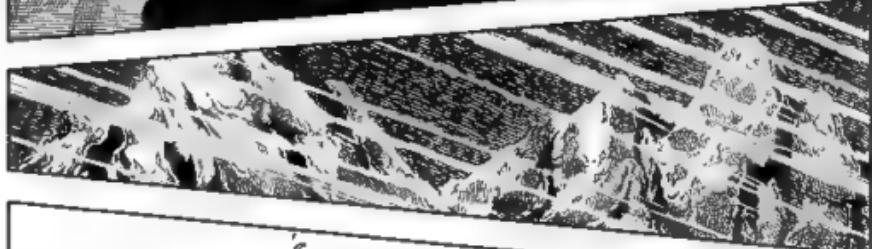












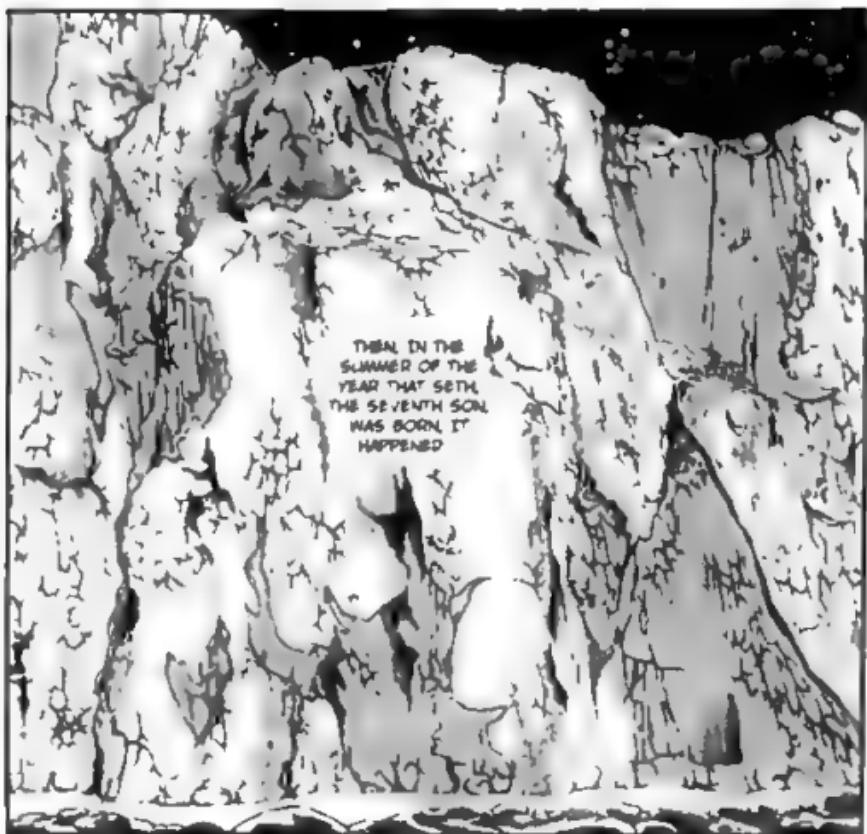
WHOOOSH

WHOOOSH

ROOOOMM

FROM THAT TIME ON, NOAH
AND CAIN PRODUCED CHILD
AFTER CHILD.

AND THEY GAVE NAMES TO
EACH ONE: LOT, RYTH, ABEL,
ABIRO, TERA, HURAN AND SETH.







I'M SO
SORRY,
ROMY...



I'M AFRAID
WE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
HAVE ANY
MORE
CHILDREN...

WE'VE ALREADY
HAD SEVEN,
CAIN...

YES, BUT
THEY'RE
ALL BOYS.



WE NEED A GIRL.
WITHOUT ONE, OUR
LINE WILL DIE OUT.
IF ONLY WE HAD
A GIRL...

YOU'RE A
WOMAN, ROMY!
PLEASE.
YOU'VE GOT TO
GO BACK TO
SLEEP AGAIN.



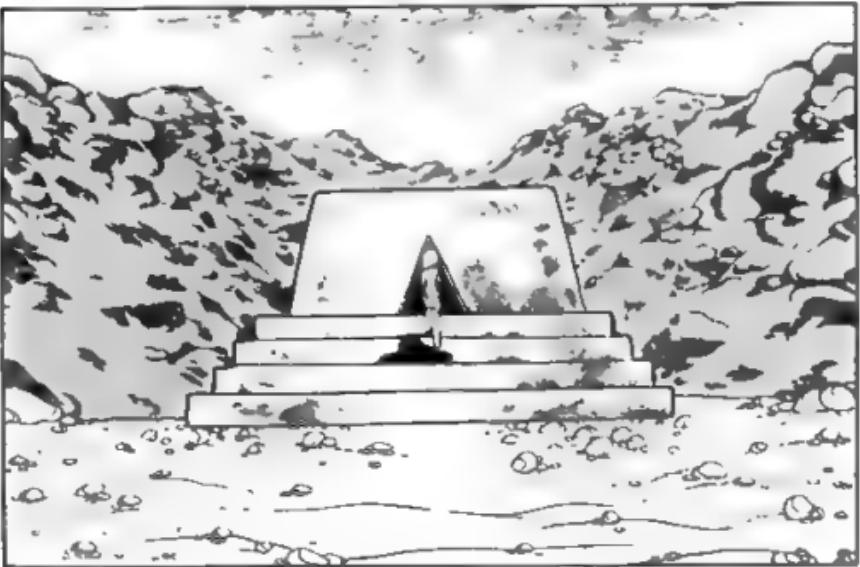
WHAT?!

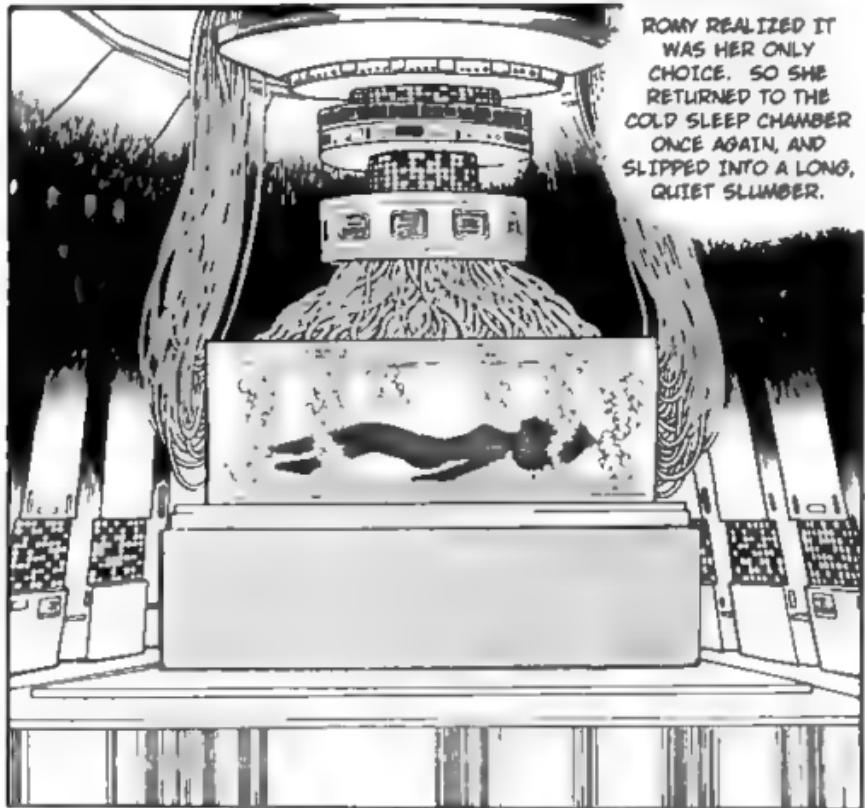
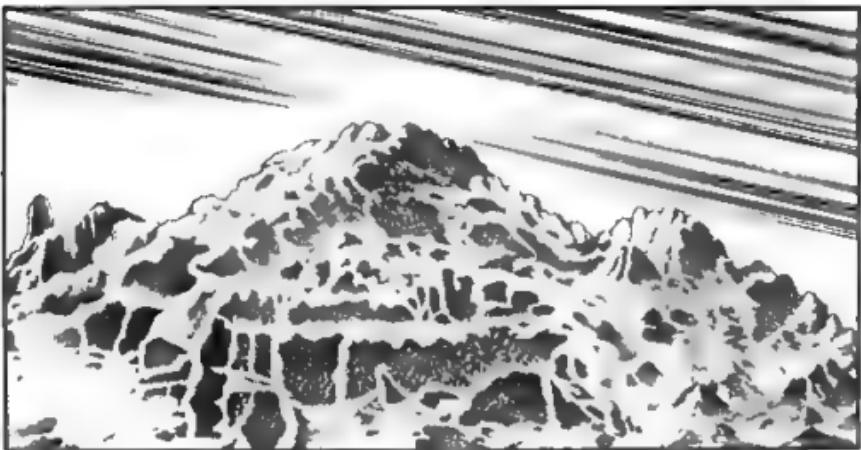
GO BACK INTO THE ROOM BEHIND
THE WHITE WALL AGAIN.
GO TO SLEEP FOR A LONG, LONG
TIME. ONCE OUR BOYS HAVE
GROWN INTO MEN YOU CAN COME
BACK AND MARRY ONE OF THEM.

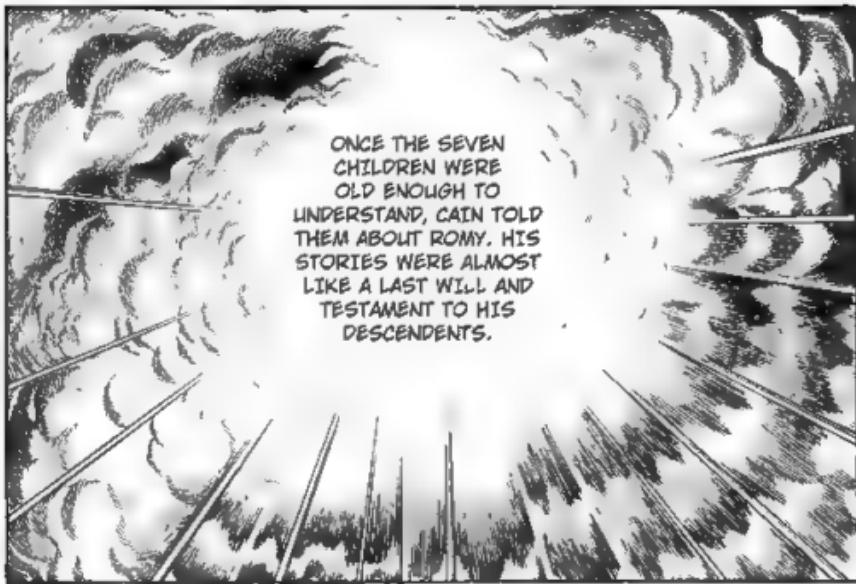


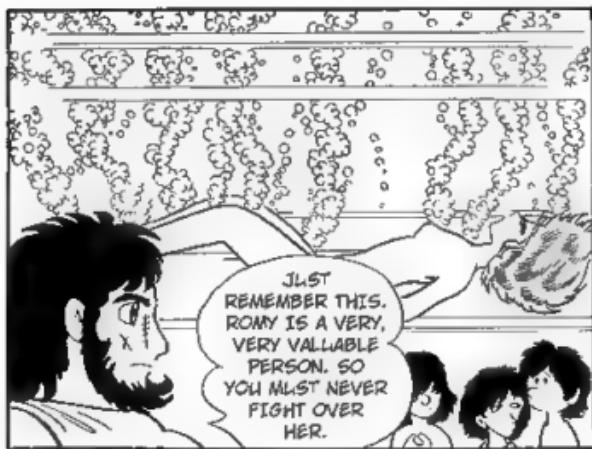


YOU'RE A STRONG WOMAN, RONI! YOU MUST NOT AGE. YOU MUST STAY YOUNG FOREVER! IF YOU GO BACK INTO THE ROOM BEHIND THE WHITE WALL, YOU CAN STAY YOUNG FOREVER!

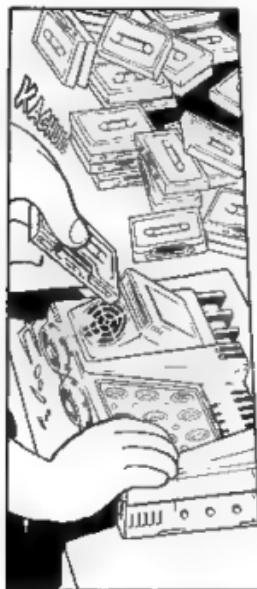


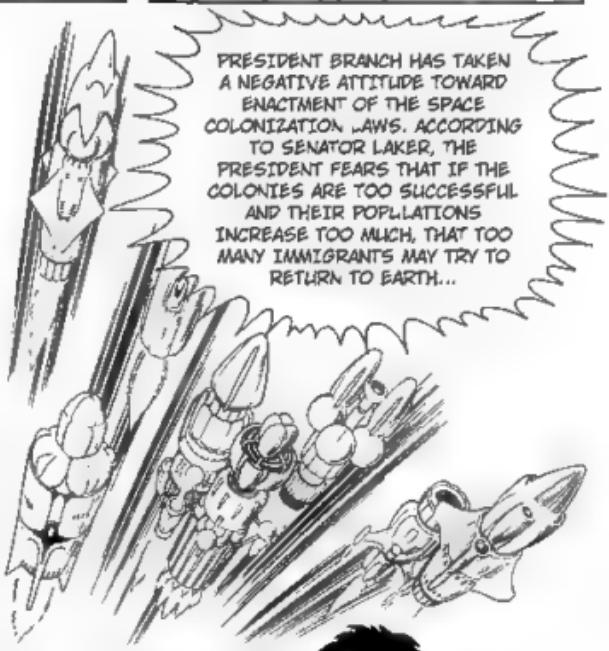




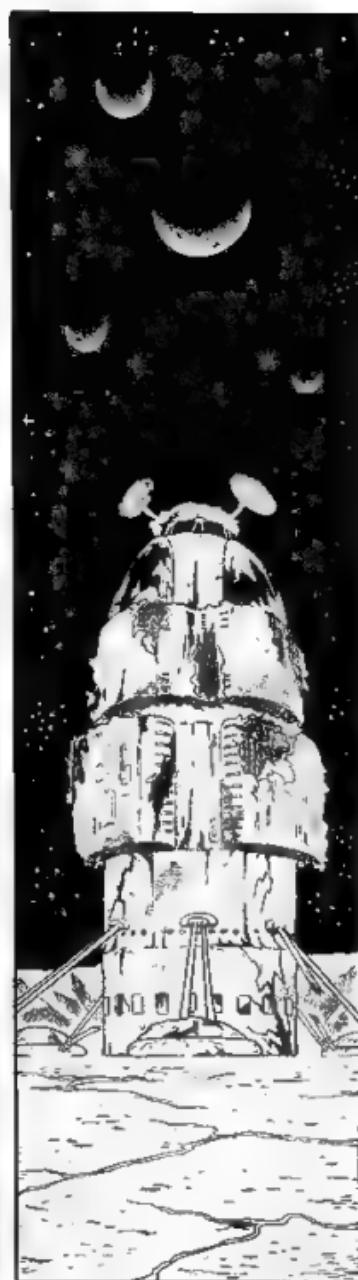
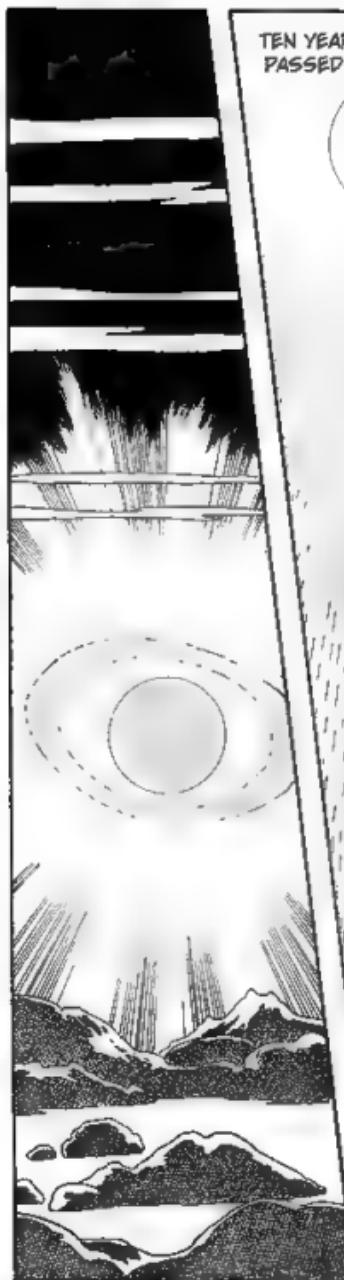






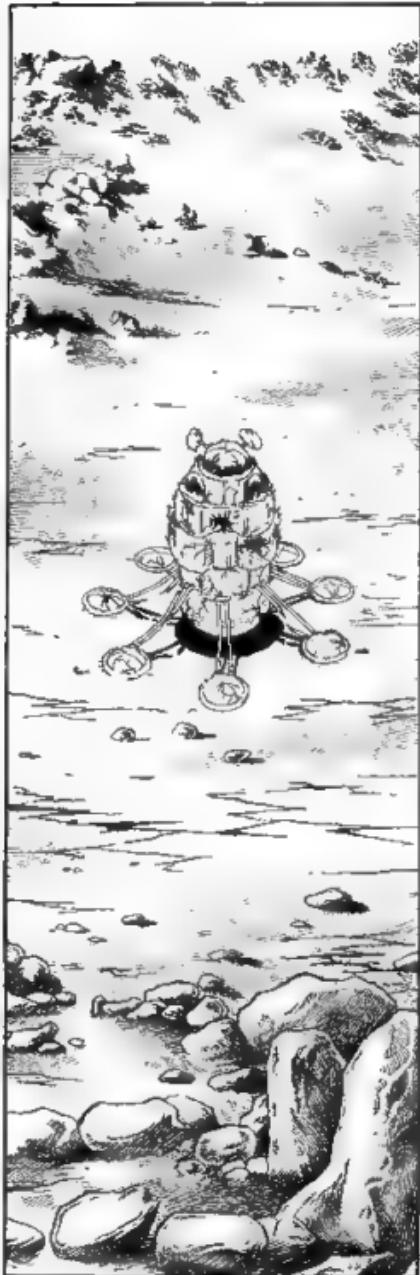


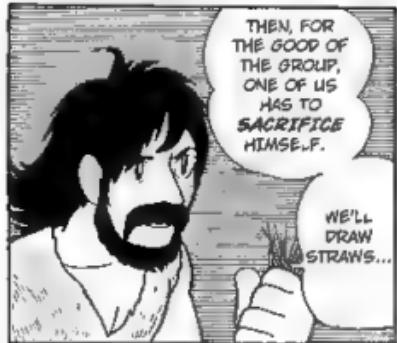
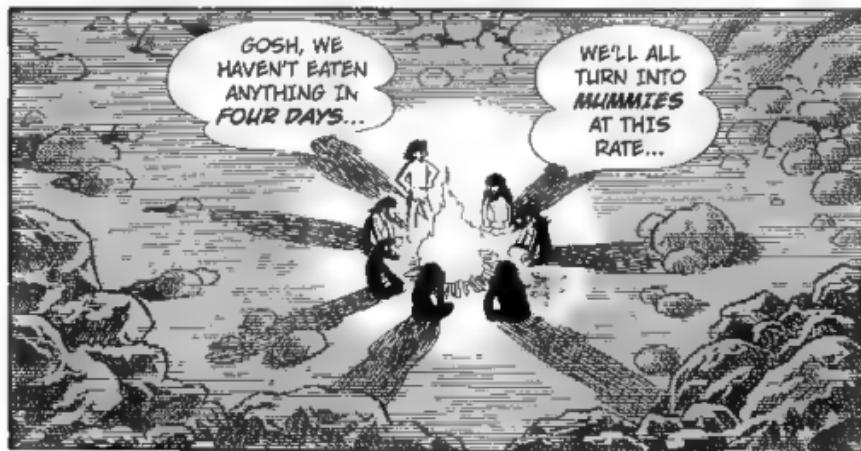






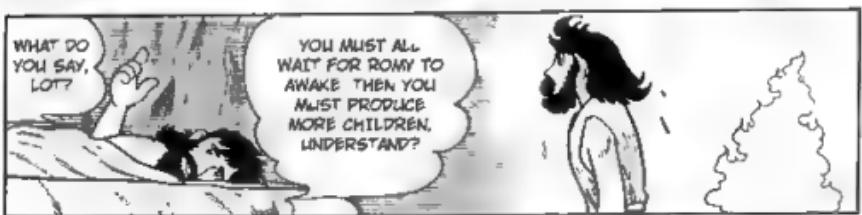
AND THEN CAIN AND
HIS CHILDREN FACED
A TERRIBLE YEAR OF
DROUGHT, DURING
WHICH THE SPARSE
VEGETATION ON
EDEN IT DRIED UP
AND DIED.

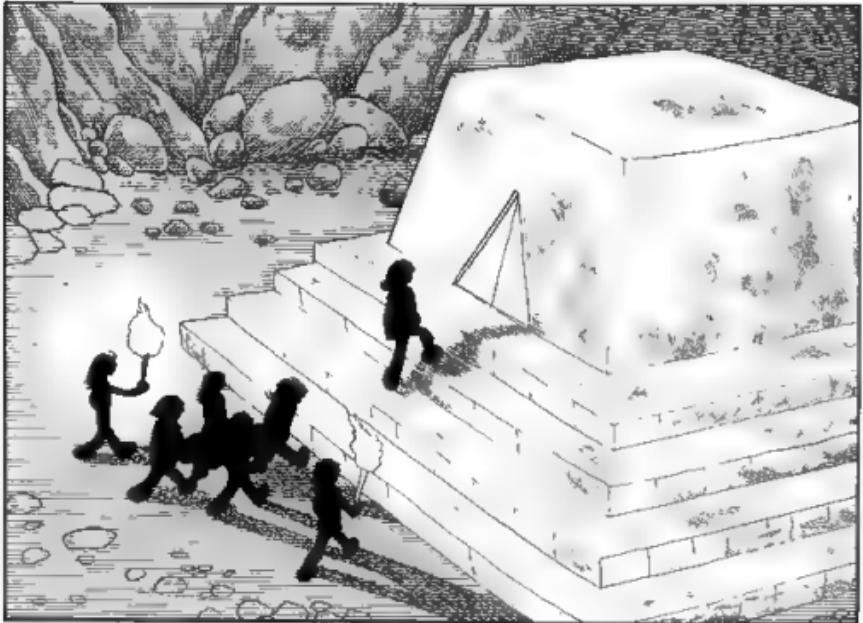
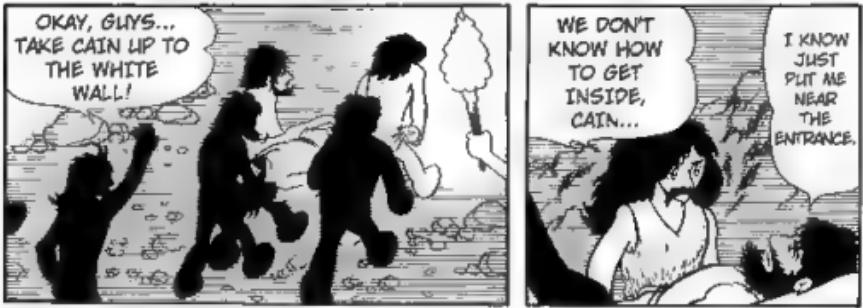






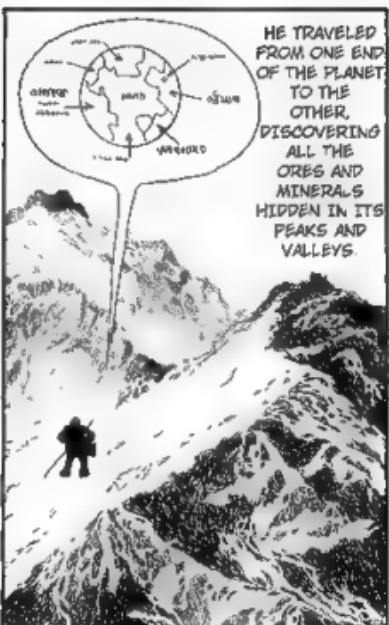
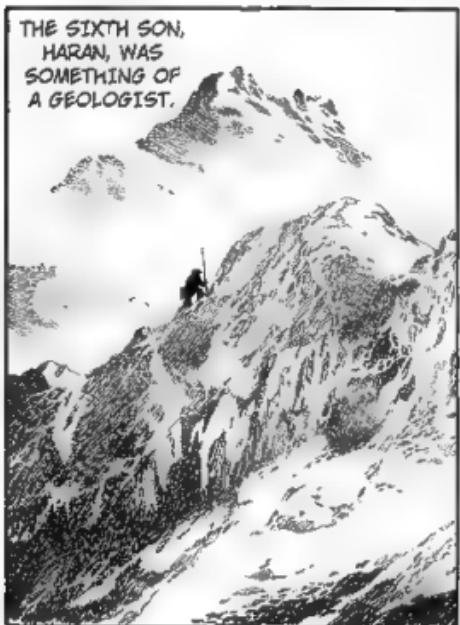
I'D BE HAPPIER
IF I COULD HELP
YOU SURVIVE
SO LET ME BE
THE SACRIFICE.













ONE DAY, HABAN ACCIDENTALLY CAME UPON AN OLD SUBSTANCE, OBTAINED FROM BETWEEN SOME ROCKS, EVIDENCE THAT ANIMALS HAD ONCE FLOURISHED IN THE PLANET'S DISTANT PAST...



BAM / BAM / BAM

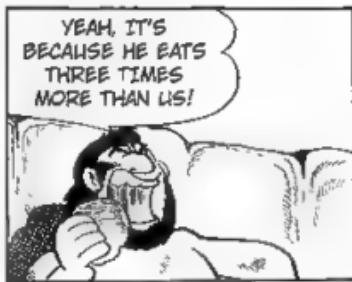
SETH, THE SEVENTH SON,
WAS UNLIKE HIS OTHER SIX
BROTHERS, AND A BIT MORE
OF A HANDFUL.

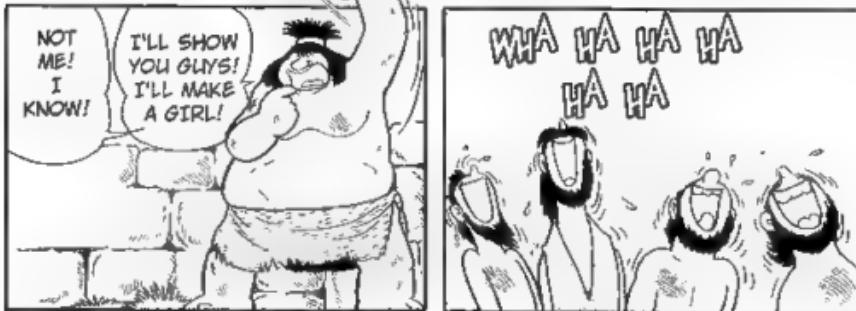
HE WAS ALWAYS GETTING
INTO TROUBLE.

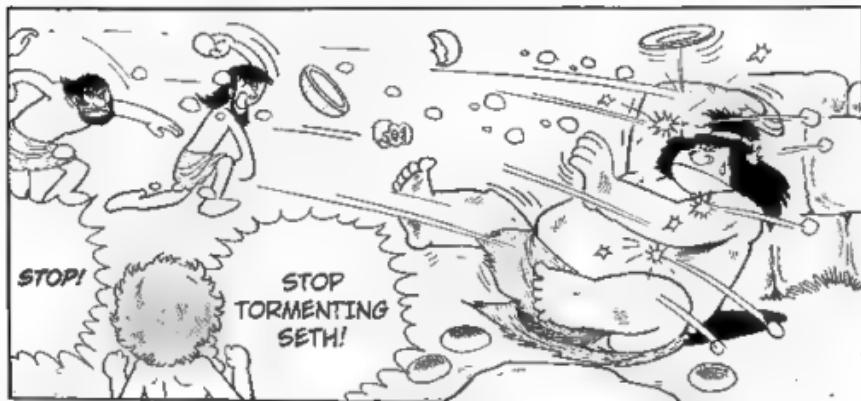


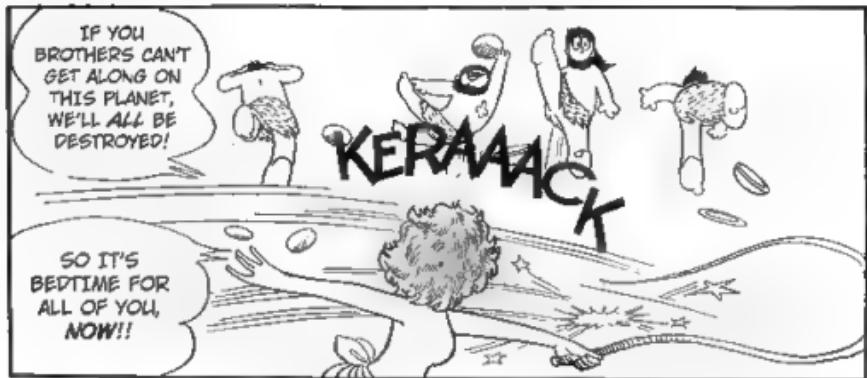
...AND THE
TROUBLE
USUALLY
OCCURRED
AROUND
MEAL TIME.



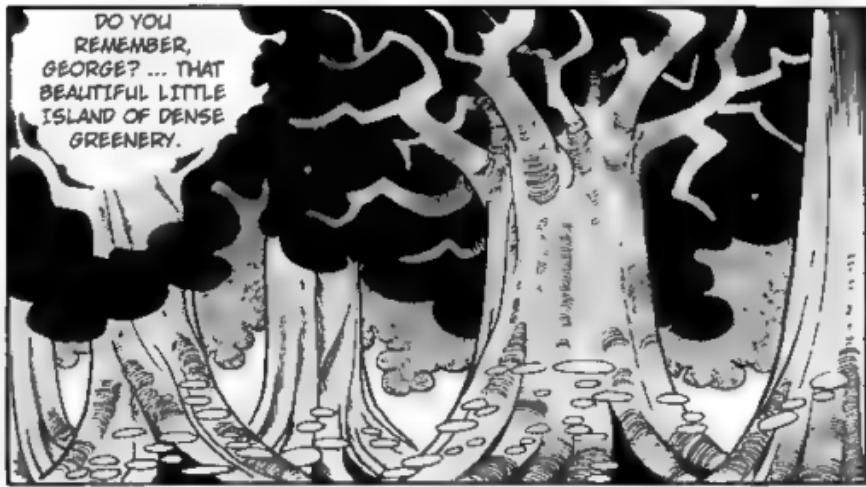


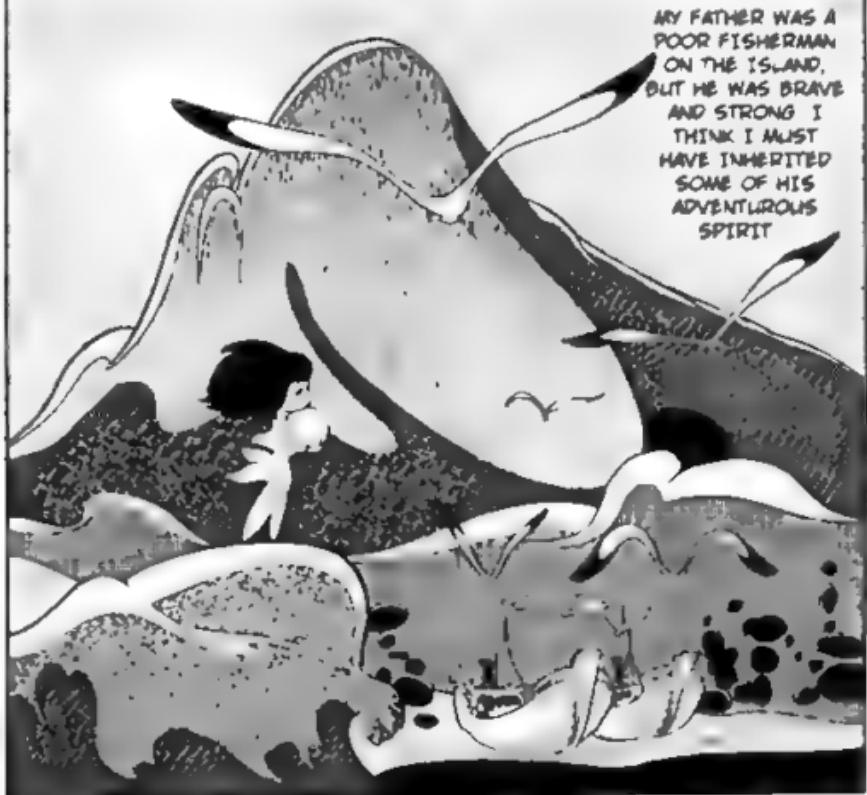




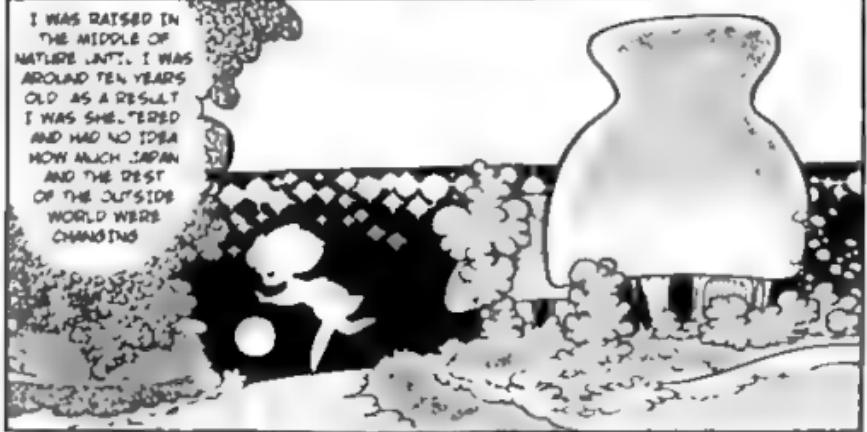








MY FATHER WAS A
POOR FISHERMAN
ON THE ISLAND,
BUT HE WAS BRAVE
AND STRONG. I
THINK I MUST
HAVE INHERITED
SOME OF HIS
ADVENTUROUS
SPIRIT



I WAS RAISED IN
THE MIDDLE OF
NATURE. LATELY, I WAS
AROUND TEN YEARS
OLD AS A RESULT
I WAS SHELTERED
AND HAD NO IDEA
HOW MUCH JAPAN
AND THE REST
OF THE OUTSIDE
WORLD WERE
CHANGING

I FIRST MET
YOU IN HIGH
SCHOOL...

I REMEMBER WHEN
YOU CAME TO MY
ISLAND. YOU WERE
WITH A STUDY
GROUP FROM YOUR
UNIVERSITY. YOU
SAID YOUR NAME WAS
GEORGE HAZAMA.

I
PRETENDED
NOT TO BE
VERY
INTERESTED
WHEN
I FIRST
SAW YOU...

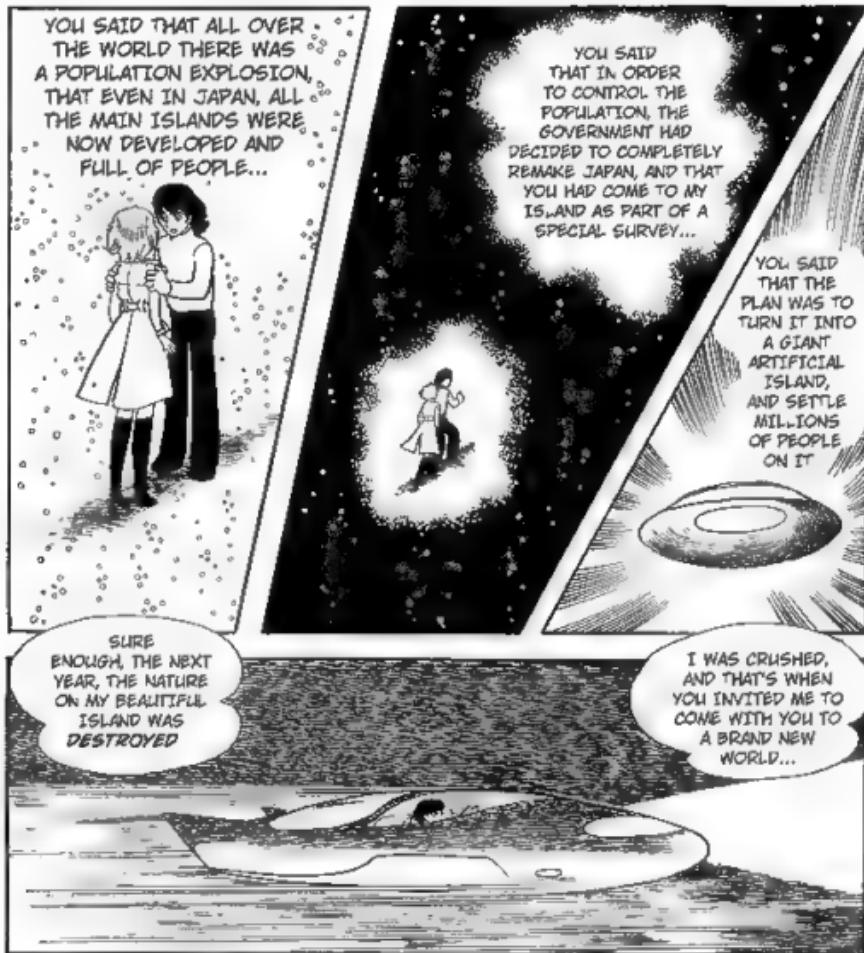
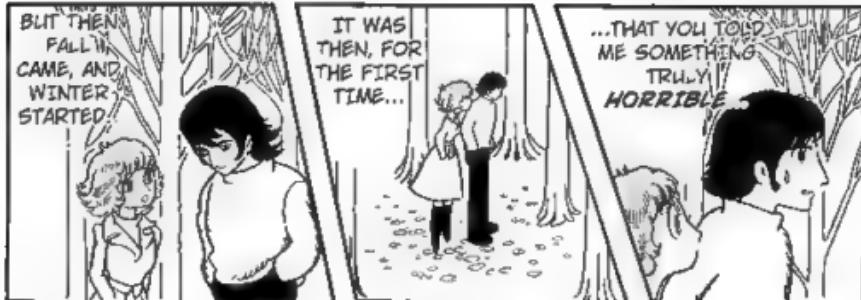
WE MET ON
A WHITE
SAND
BEACH,
ON A
BEAUTIFUL
SLUNNY
DAY...

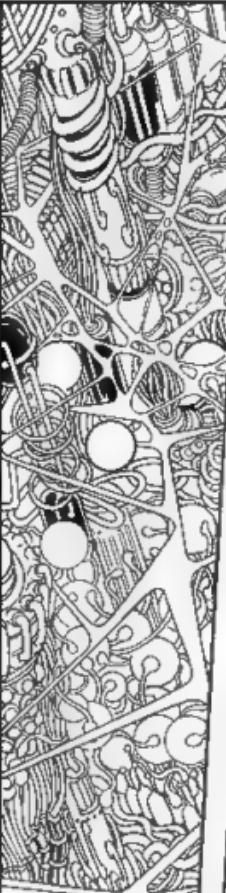
...AND WE
BEGAN
TALKING...

BUT I
STARTED
FALLING
IN LOVE
RIGHT
AWAY...

WE RAN
ABOUT, AND
HAD A GREAT
TIME THAT
SUMMER...







YOU WENT
BACK TO
TOKYO, STOLE
A BILLION
YEN IN
CONSTRUCTION
FEES FROM
YOUR
UNIVERSITY,
AND THEN FLED
WITH ME... WE
CREATED QUITE
A SCENE,
DIDN'T WE?

THE MASS
MEDIA STARTED
SENSATIONALIZING
THINGS AND A
WARRANT WAS
ISSUED FOR
YOUR ARREST,
BUT YOU TOOK
ME AND
FLED TO
HONG KONG...



THERE, WE
VISITED A BARGAIN
BASEMENT SPACE
REAL ESTATE AGENT,
BOUGHT A PLANET
SEVERAL LIGHT
YEARS FROM EARTH,
AND IMMEDIATELY
TOOK OFF...

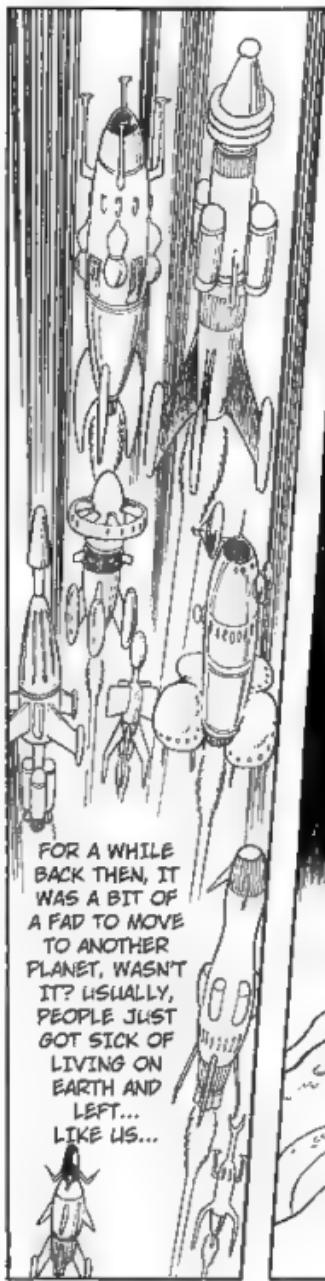


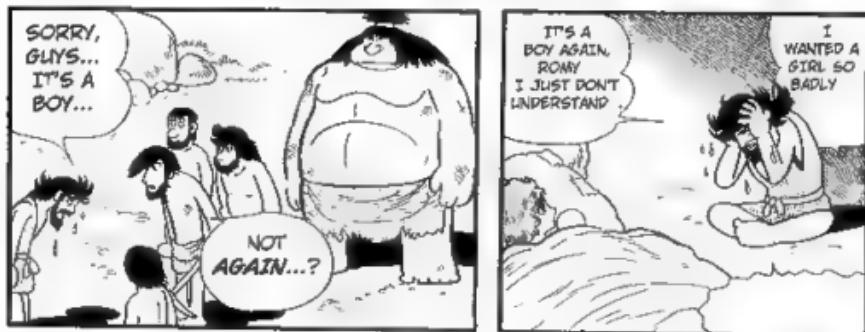
WE HEARD
THE NEWS
ON THE
RADIO
WHILE IN
THE SPACE
SHIP--"TWO
STUDENTS
PULL OFF A
HUGE HEIST
AND FLEE TO
DISTANT
PLANET!
A BRAZEN
ACT OF
RECKLESS
YOUTHS!" WE
COULDN'T
STOP
LAUGHING...

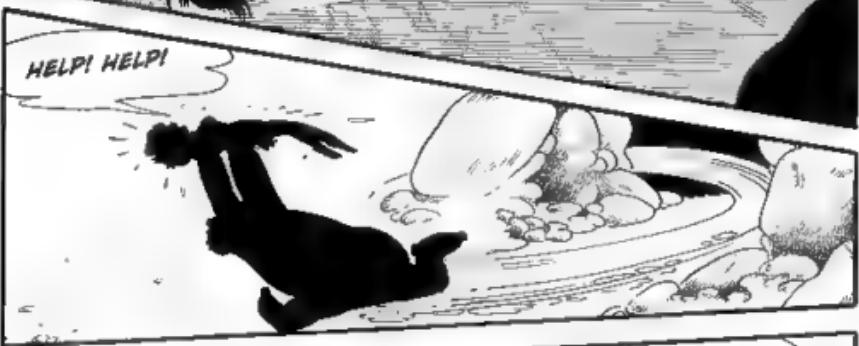


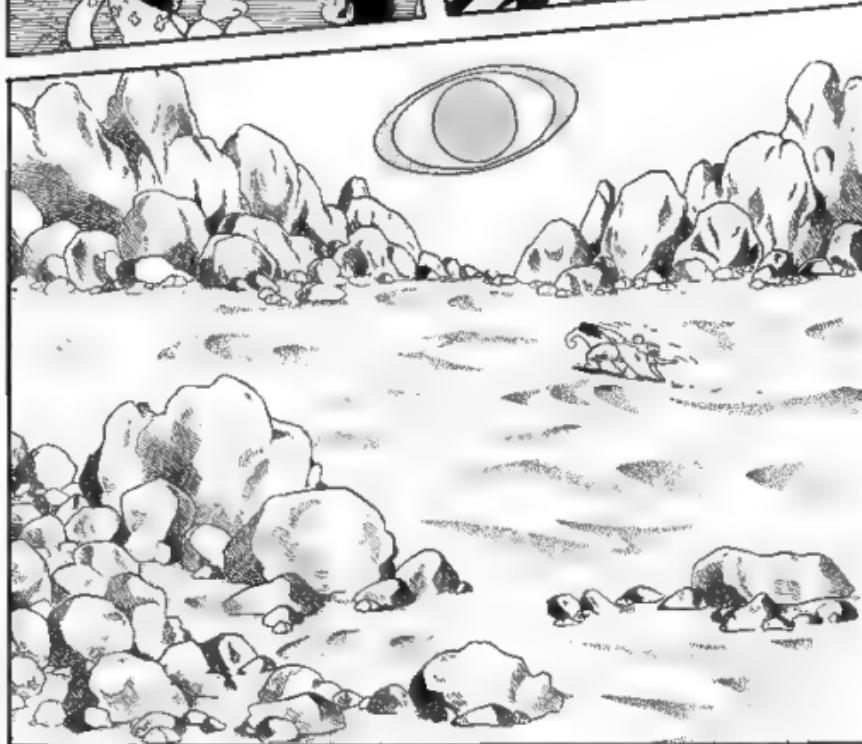
0	15
2	22429
6	5236983
11	49387
17	1,6602









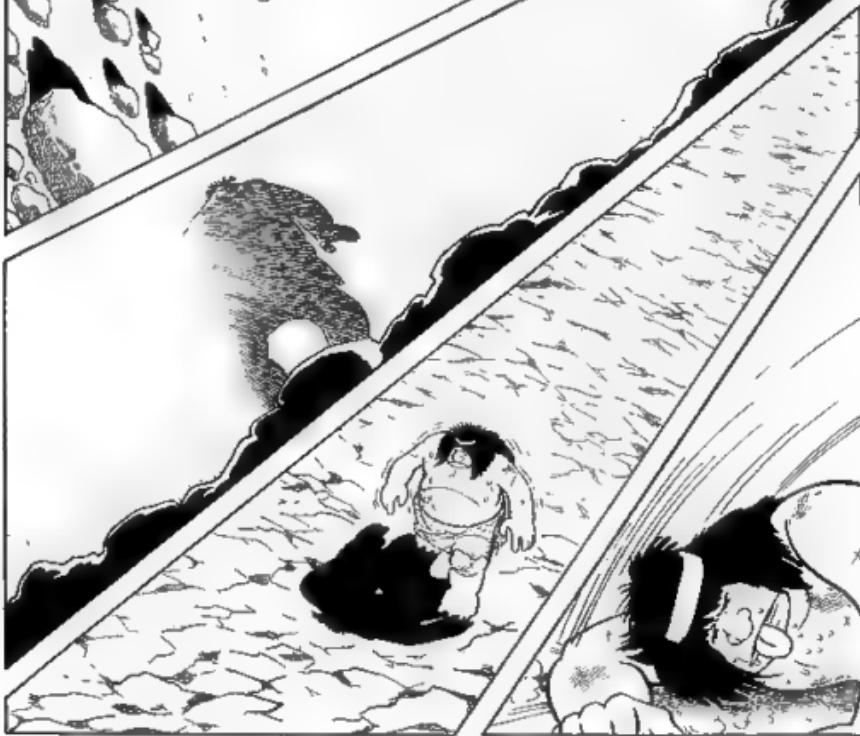


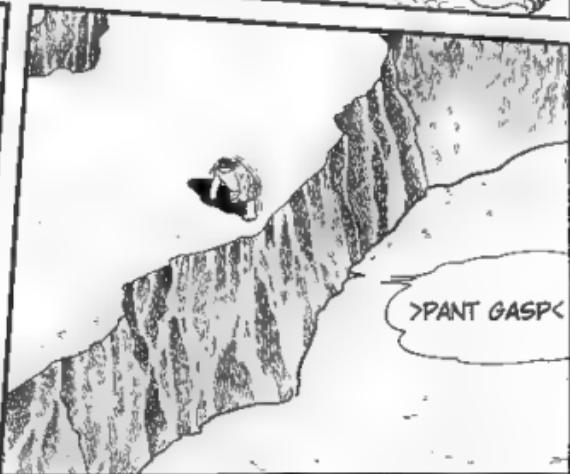
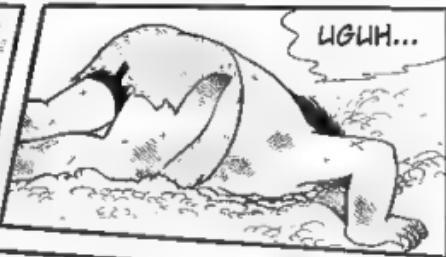




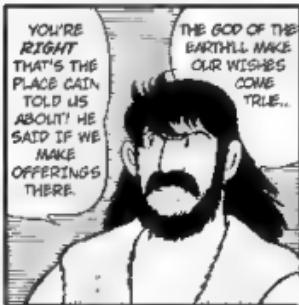
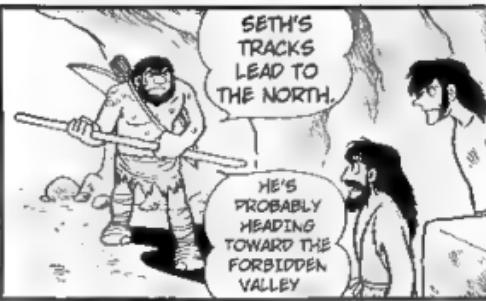




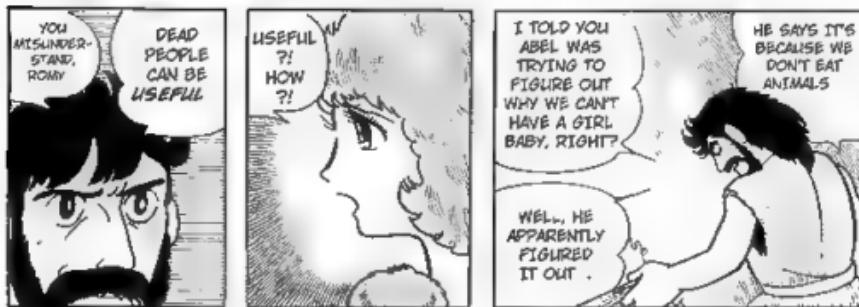




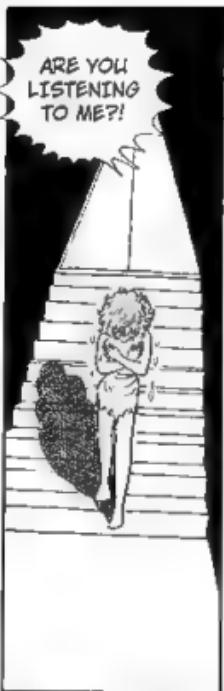




NO,
ROMY....
HE DID...



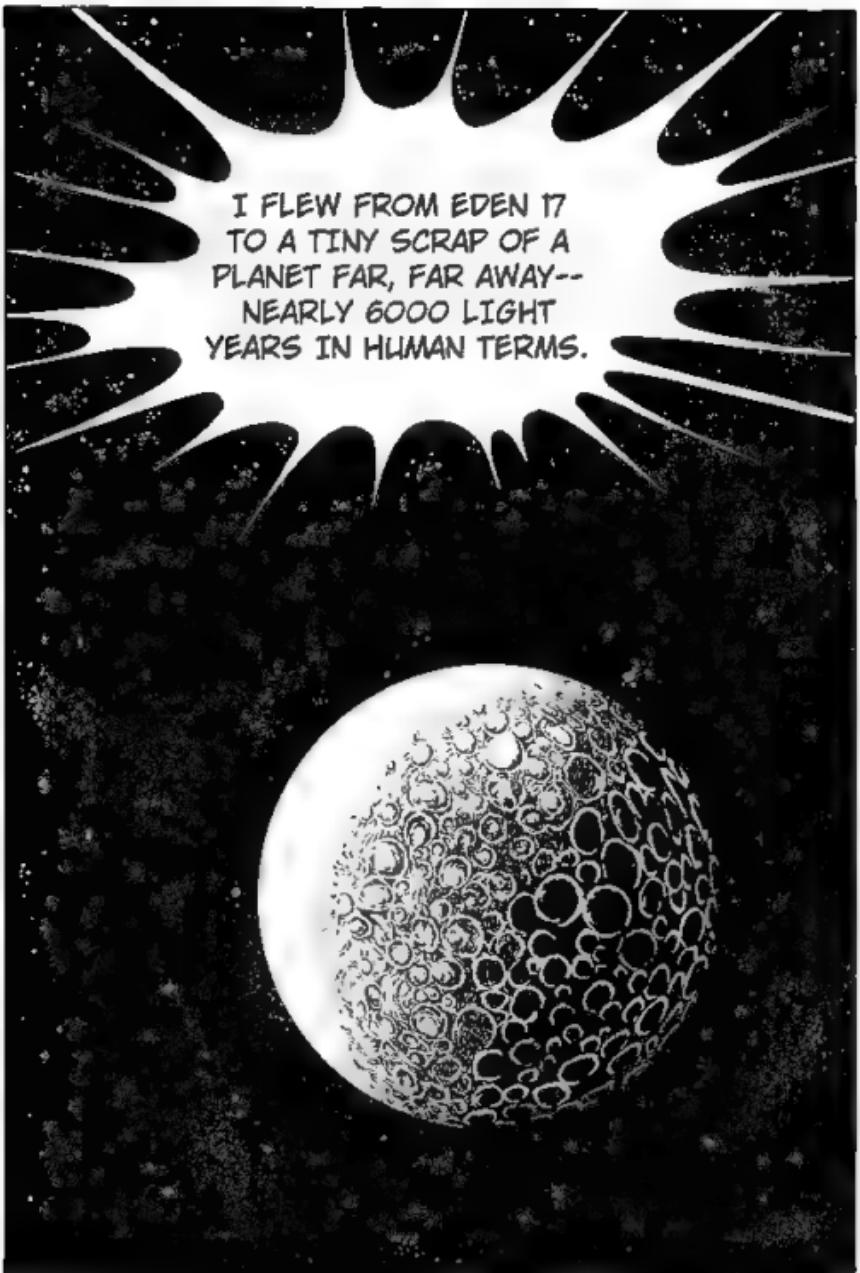




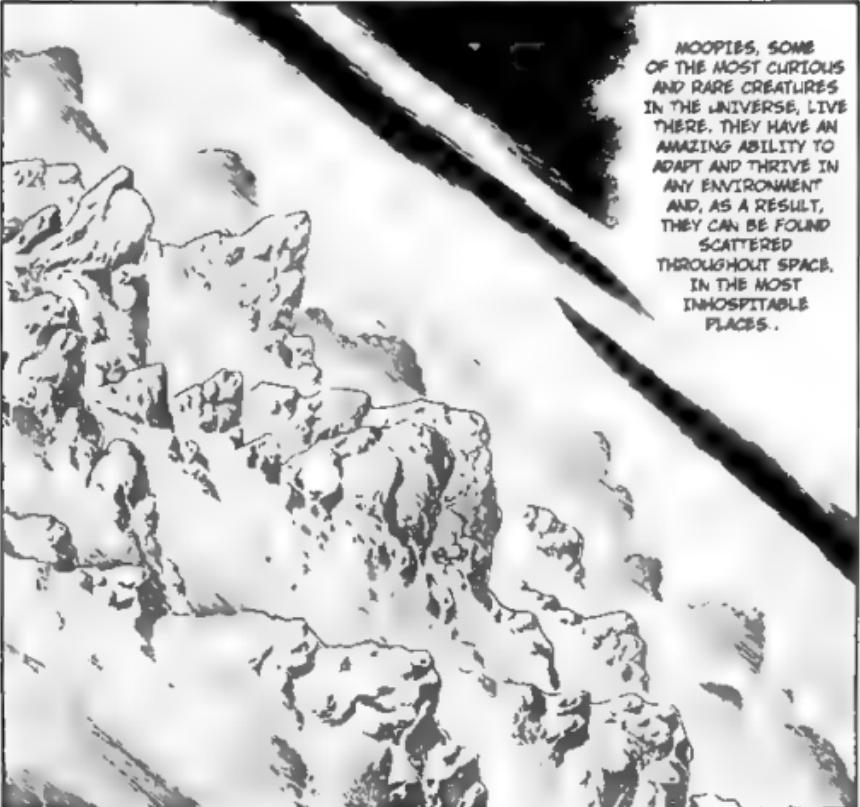




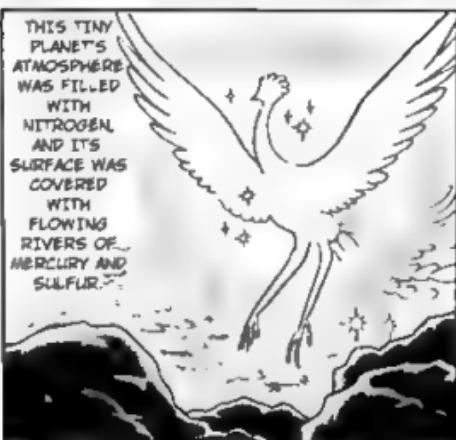




I FLEW FROM EDEN 17
TO A TINY SCRAP OF A
PLANET FAR, FAR AWAY--
NEARLY 6000 LIGHT
YEARS IN HUMAN TERMS.

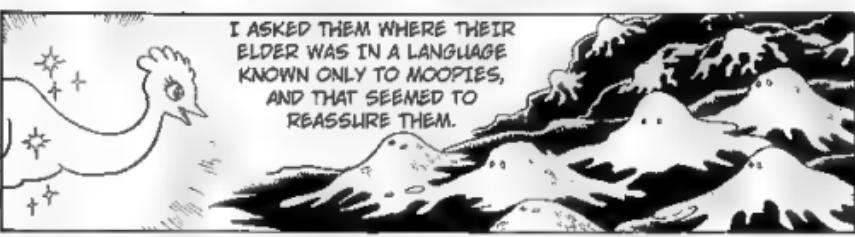


MOOPIES, SOME OF THE MOST CURIOUS AND RARE CREATURES IN THE UNIVERSE, LIVE THERE. THEY HAVE AN AMAZING ABILITY TO ADAPT AND THRIVE IN ANY ENVIRONMENT AND, AS A RESULT, THEY CAN BE FOUND SCATTERED THROUGHOUT SPACE, IN THE MOST inhospitable PLACES.





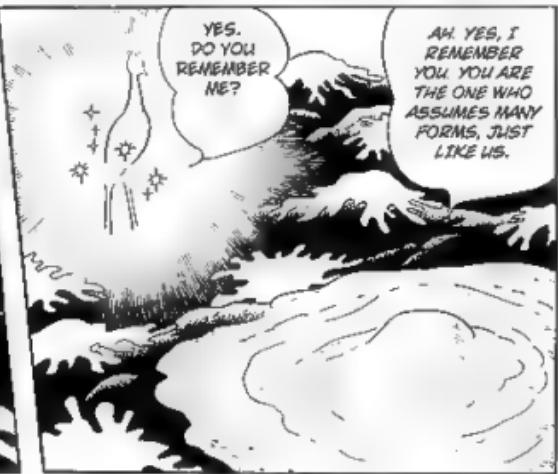
THE MOOPIES
CLING LIKE
MOSS TO
OUTCROPPINGS
OF FERRIC
SULFIDE AND
MOLYBDENUM.



I ASKED THEM WHERE THEIR
ELDER WAS IN A LANGUAGE
KNOWN ONLY TO MOOPIES,
AND THAT SEEMED TO
REASSURE THEM.

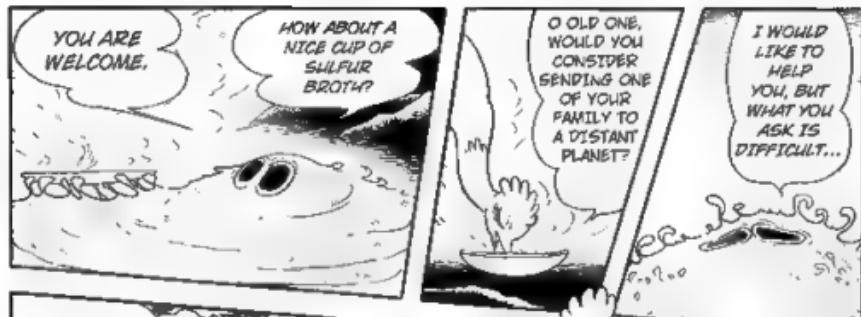


AH...
IT'S
YOU.

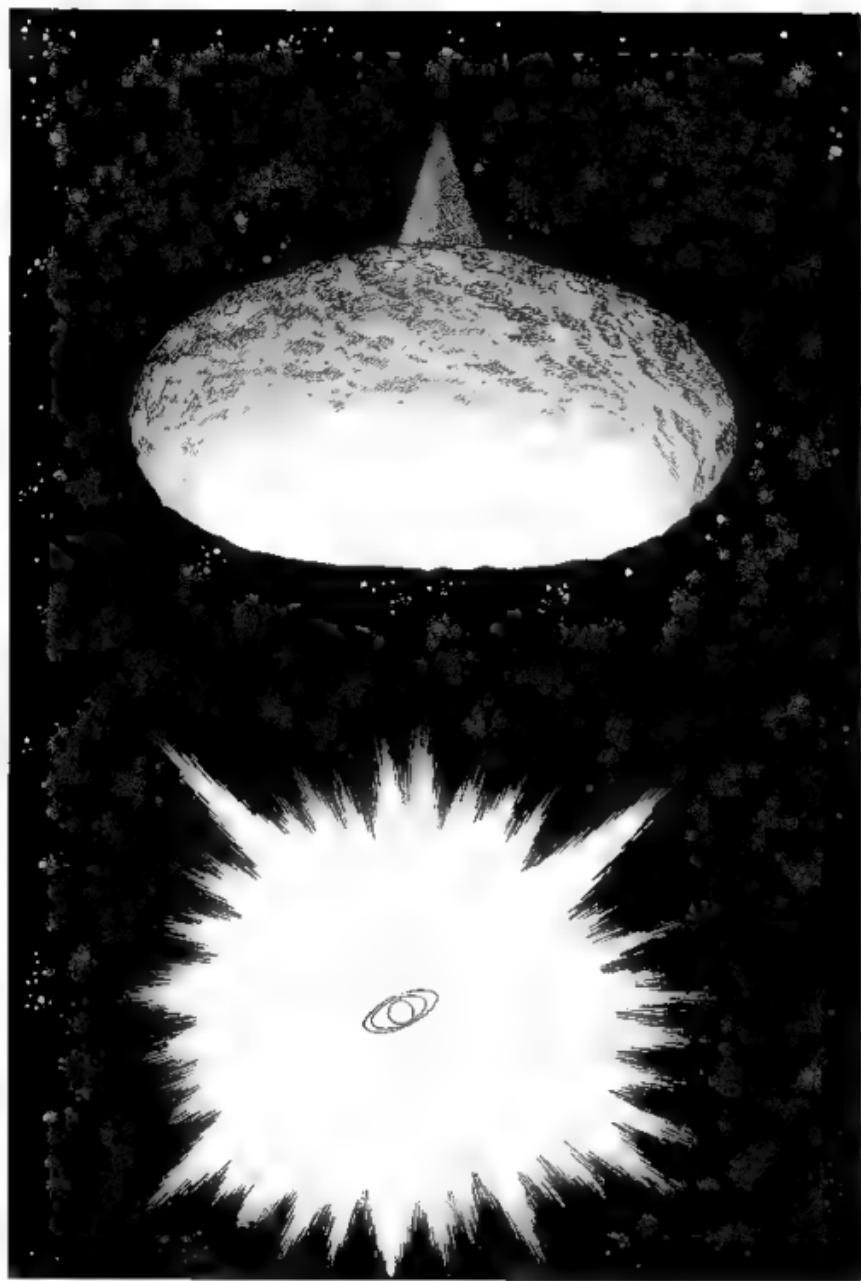


YES.
DO YOU
REMEMBER
ME?

AH, YES, I
REMEMBER
YOU. YOU ARE
THE ONE WHO
ASSUMES MANY
FORMS, JUST
LIKE US.

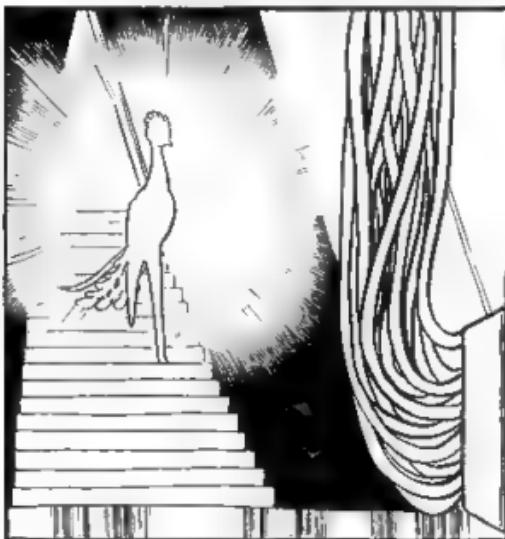


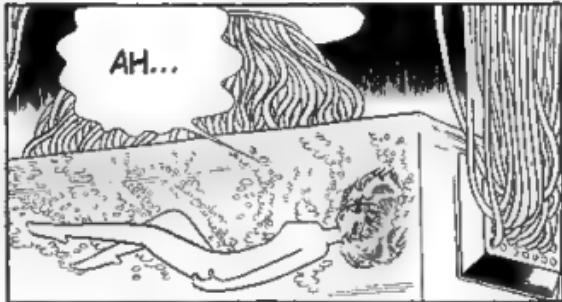
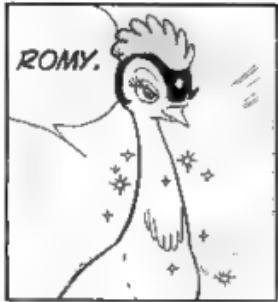


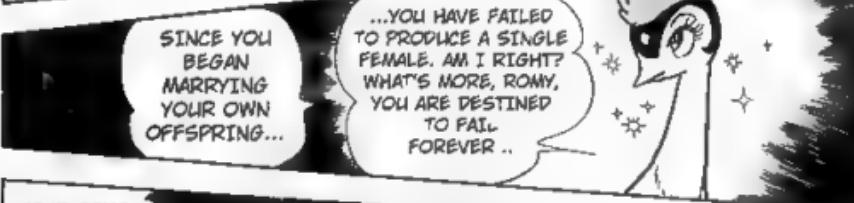


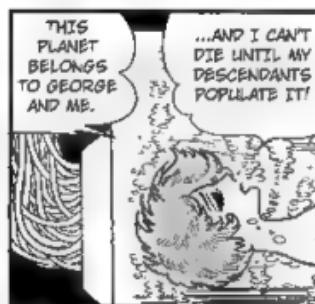


AROUND THE SAME TIME, ANOTHER OF MY INCARNATIONS VISITED THE SLEEPING ROMY AND SLIPPED INTO HER DREAMS...

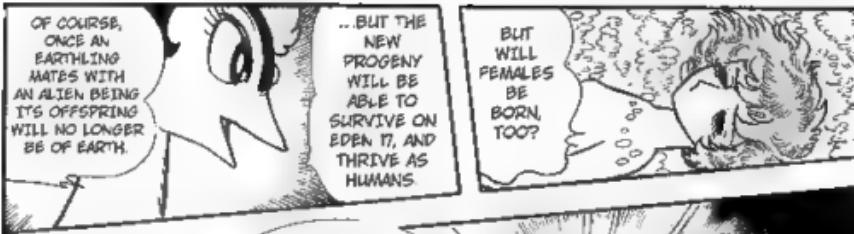


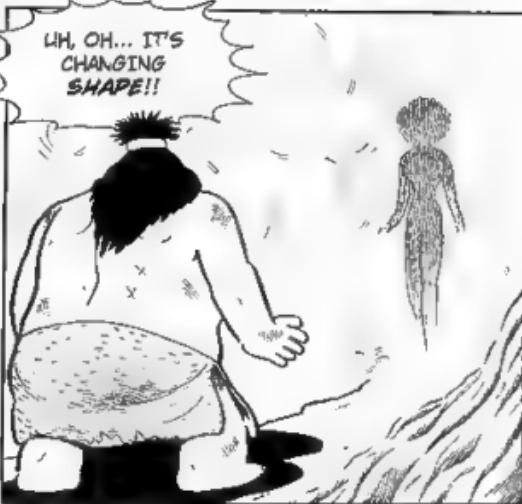
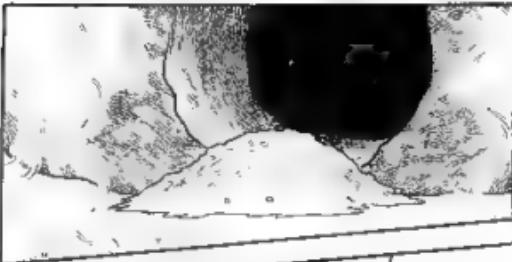


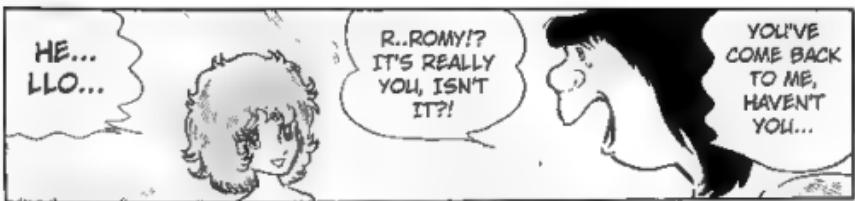
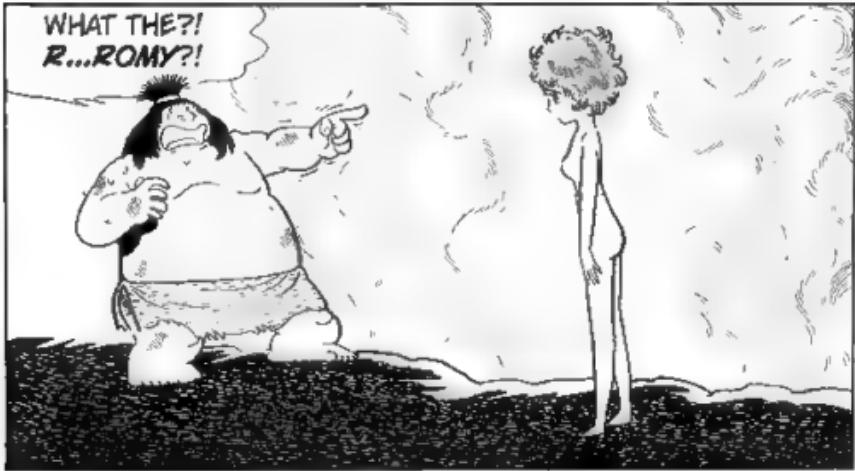


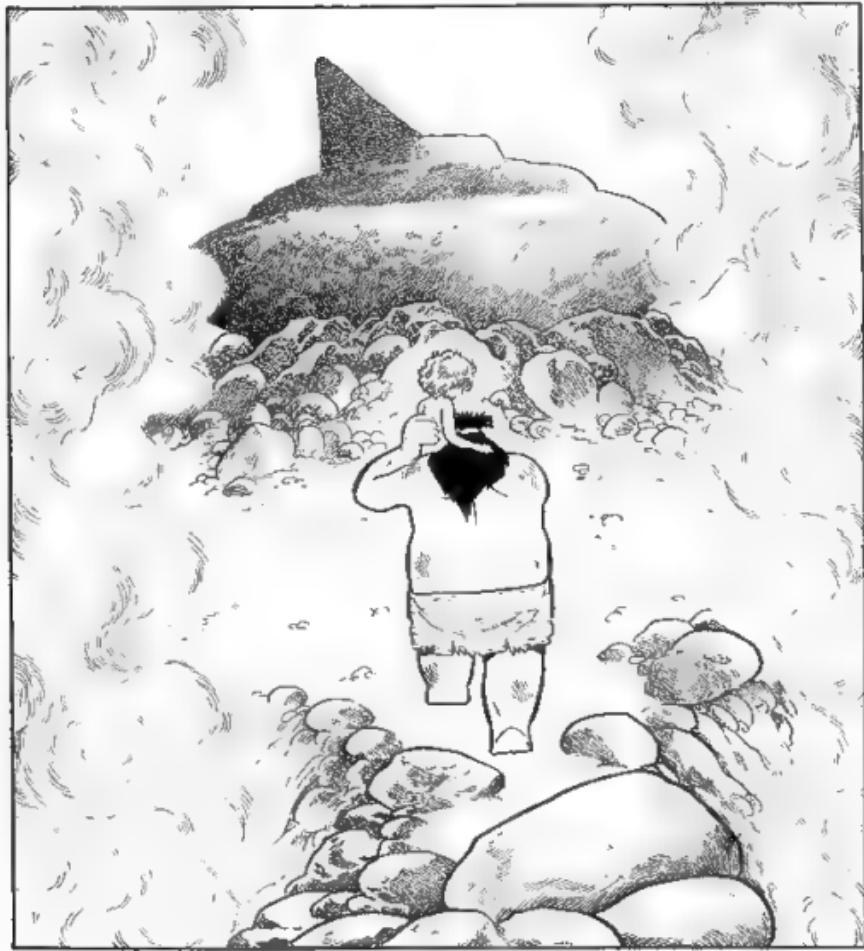




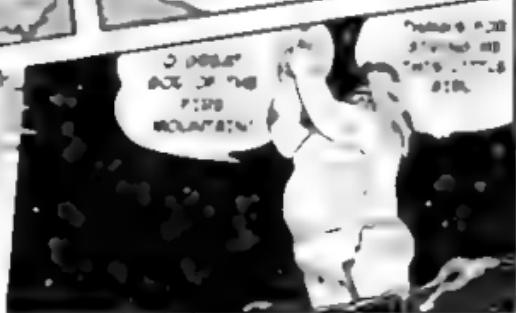


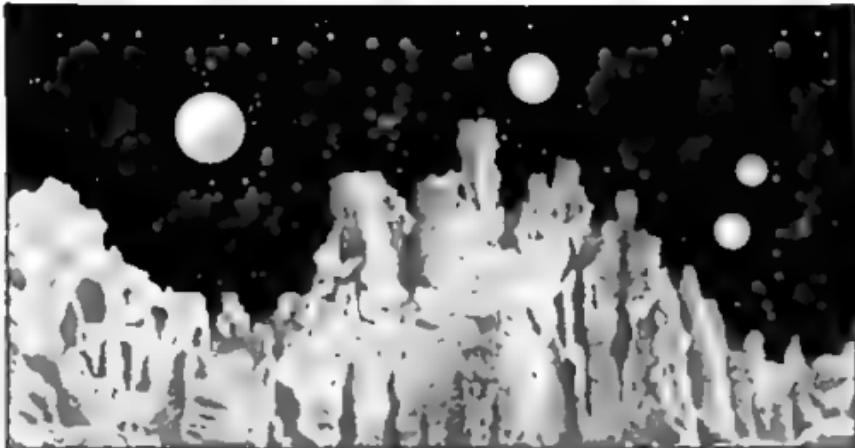




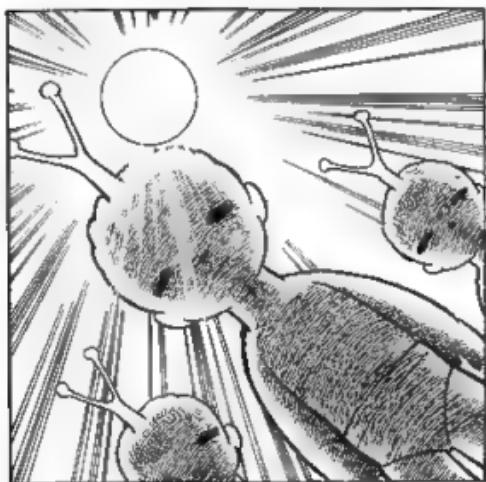


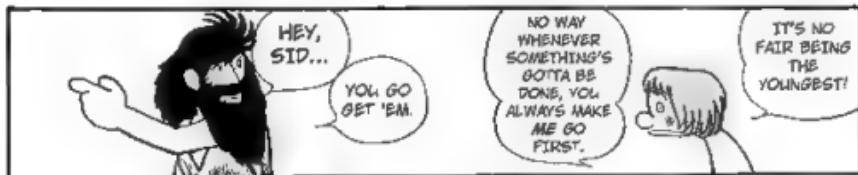
AND SO SETH
TOOK THE ADOPTED
WOMAN DEEP INTO
THE FIRE MOUNTAIN
WHERE THEY WOULD
LIVE TOGETHER FOR
MANY MANY YEARS
BUT BEFORE LONG
THEY ALSO MADE
BIRTH TO A LITTLE
BABY GIRL



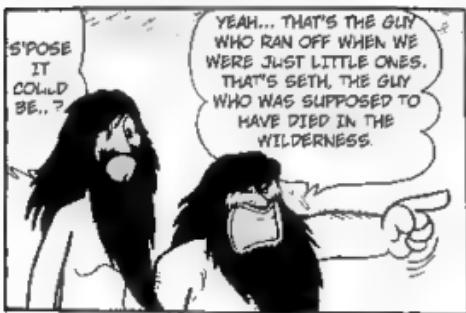


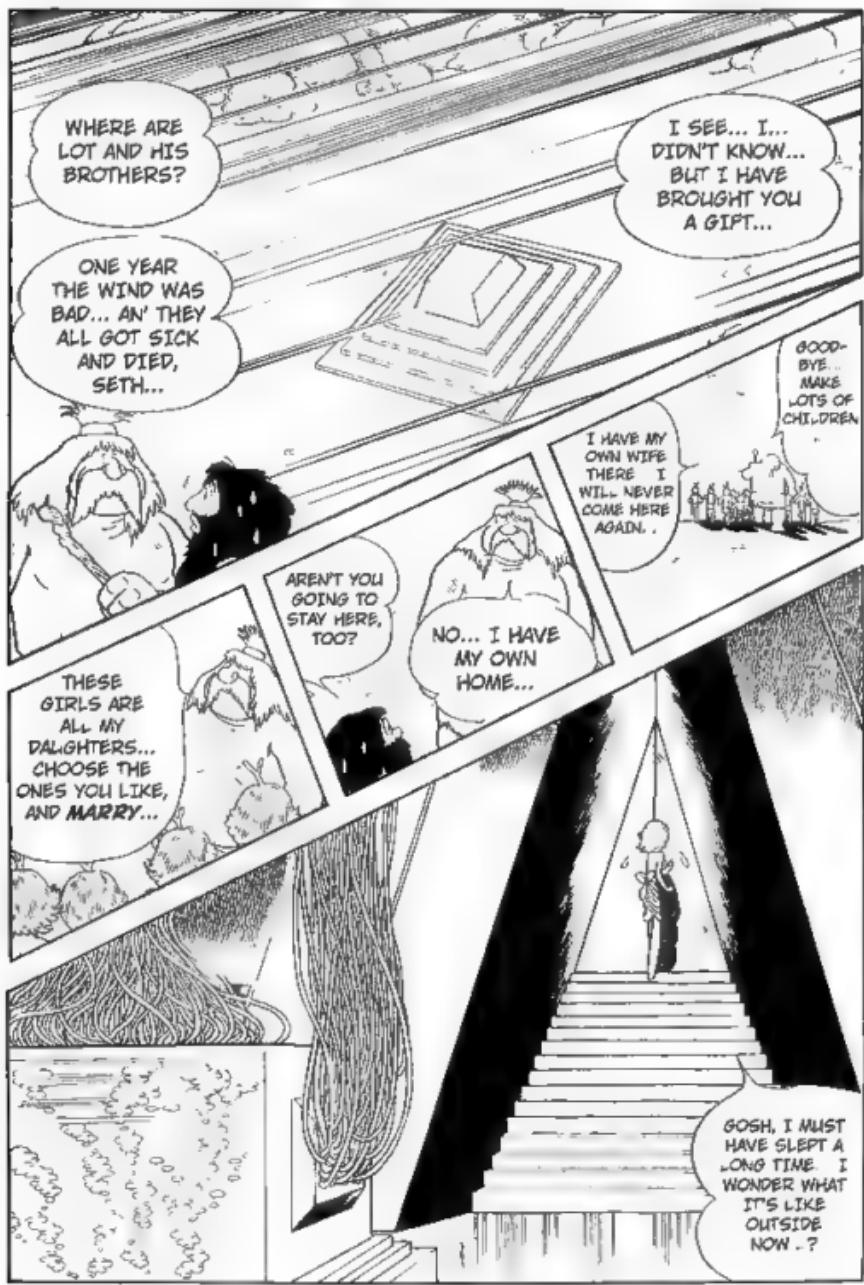


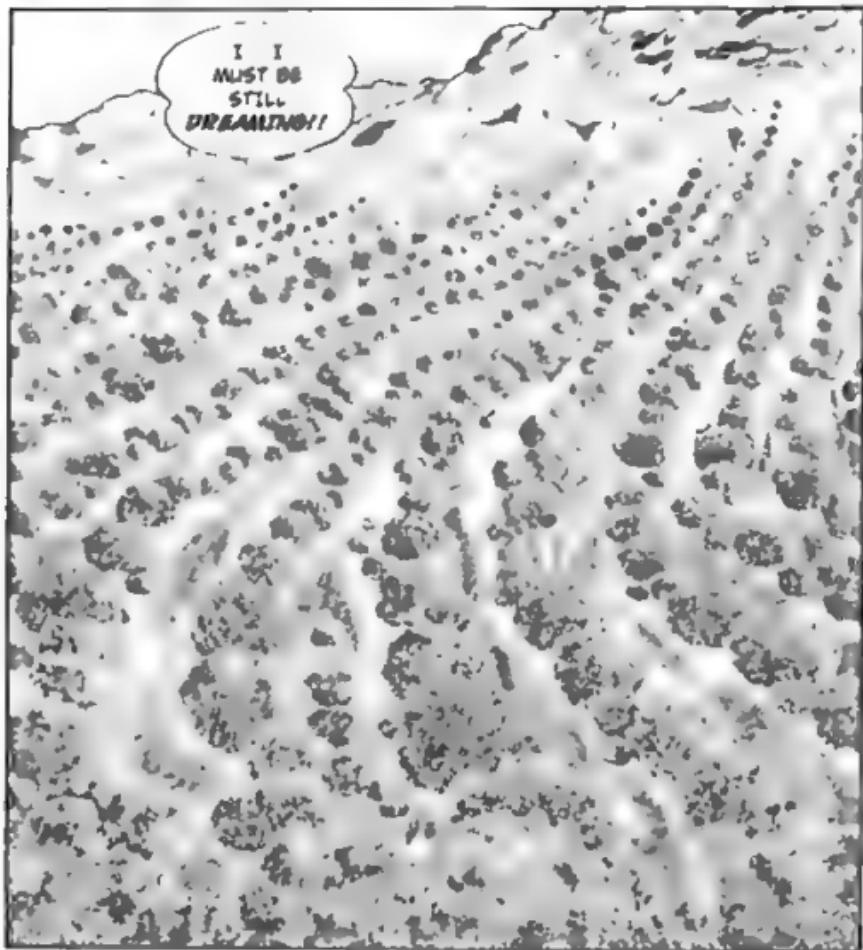


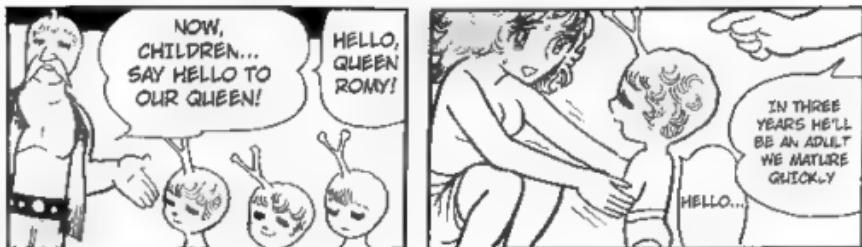
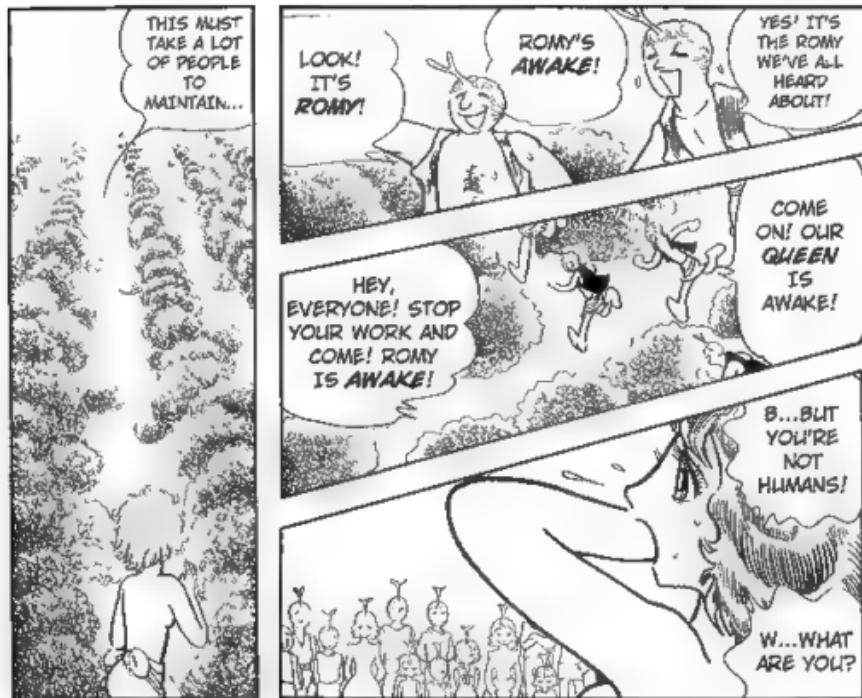


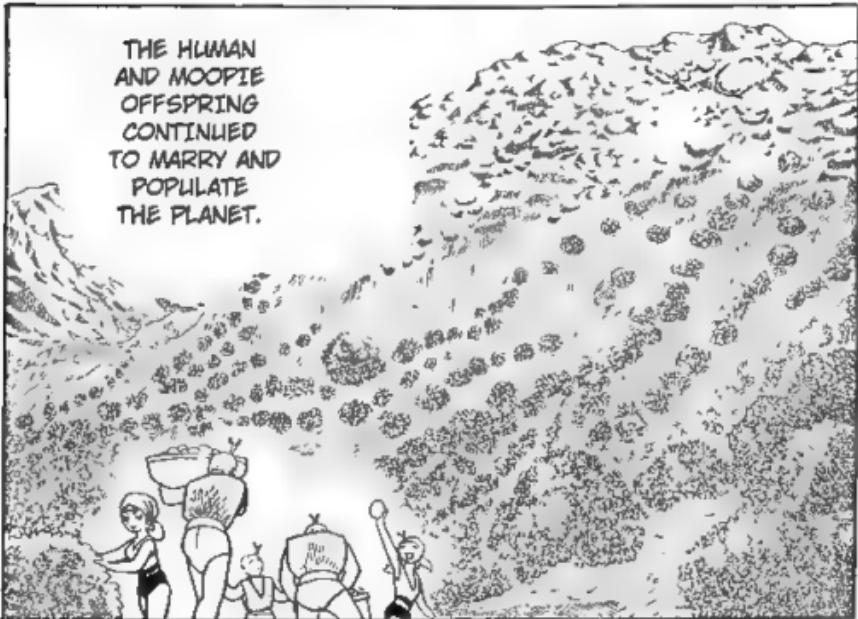




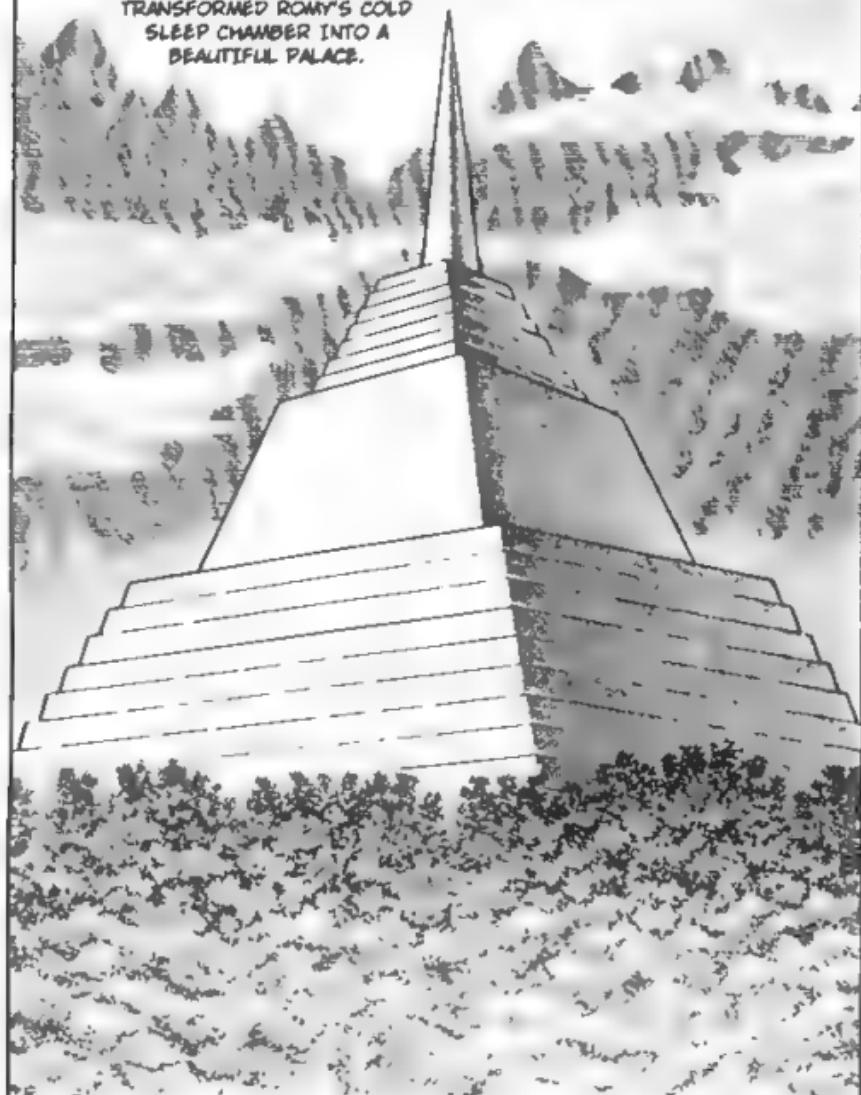




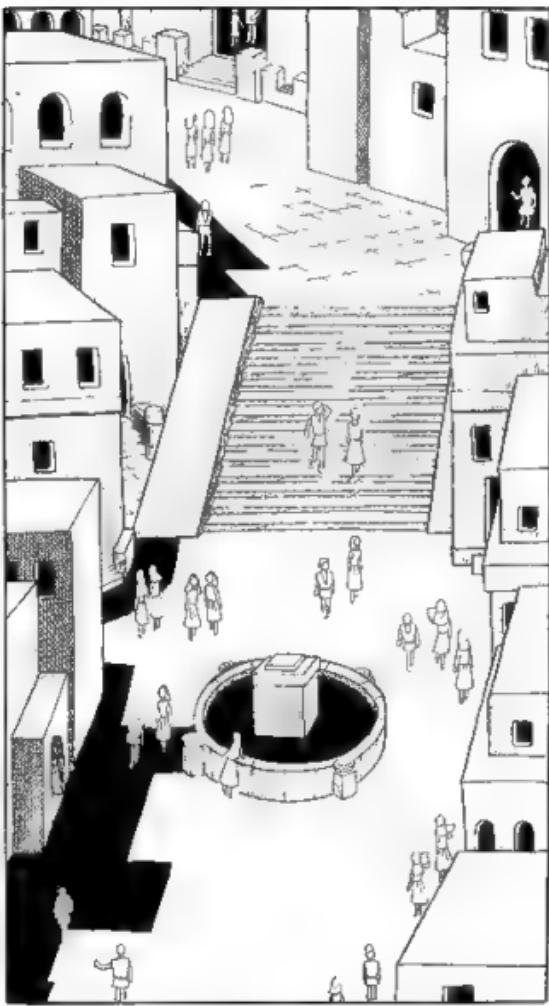




WITH THEIR SUPERIOR MOOPIE BLOODLINE,
THE NEW MEN AND WOMEN OF EDEN IT WERE
ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH UNDER THE
WORST POSSIBLE CONDITIONS.
THEY SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING A GREAT
CITY THAT THEY NAMED EDNA. THEY THEN
TRANSFORMED ROMY'S COLD
SLEEP CHAMBER INTO A
BEAUTIFUL PALACE.

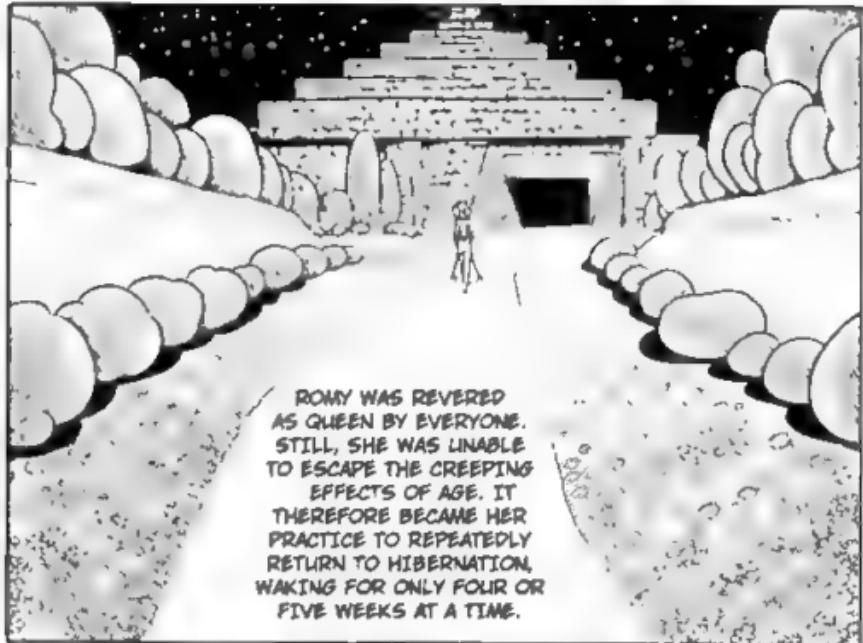


DECades
PASSED AND
EDNA'S
POPULATION
NEARED TEN
THOUSAND.



THE HUMAN-MOOPIE WOMEN WERE VERY FERTILE.
AND BY THE TIME THEIR CHILDREN WERE FOUR
OR FIVE YEARS OLD, THEY WERE CAPABLE
OF DOING ALMOST ANY WORK.

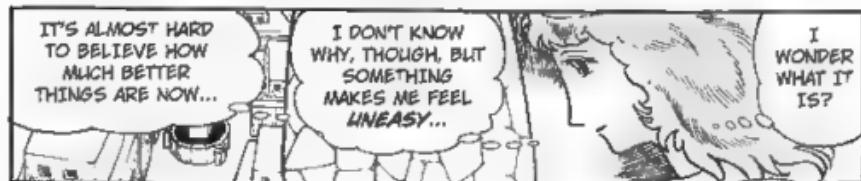
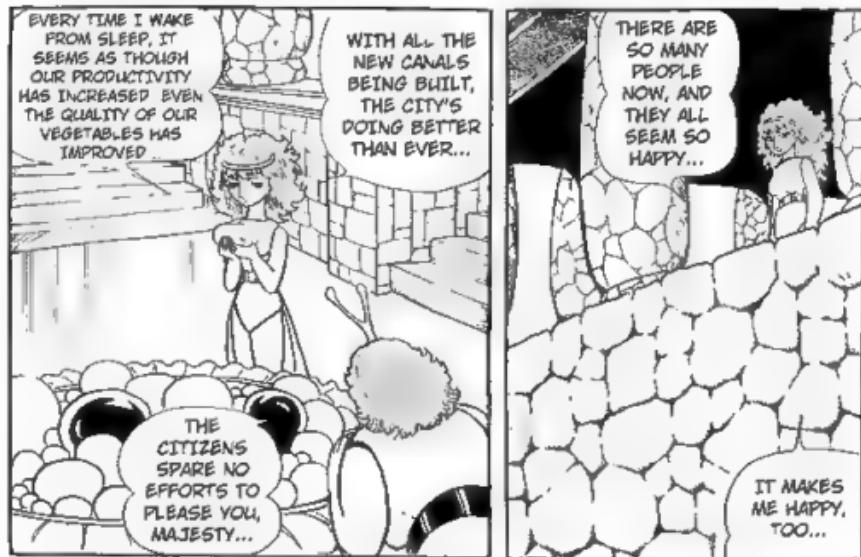
EDNA WAS A QUIET CITY, SIMPLE AND
PRIMITIVE, BUT ITS CITIZENS ALL WORKED
HARD AND GOT ALONG WELL WITH EACH OTHER.

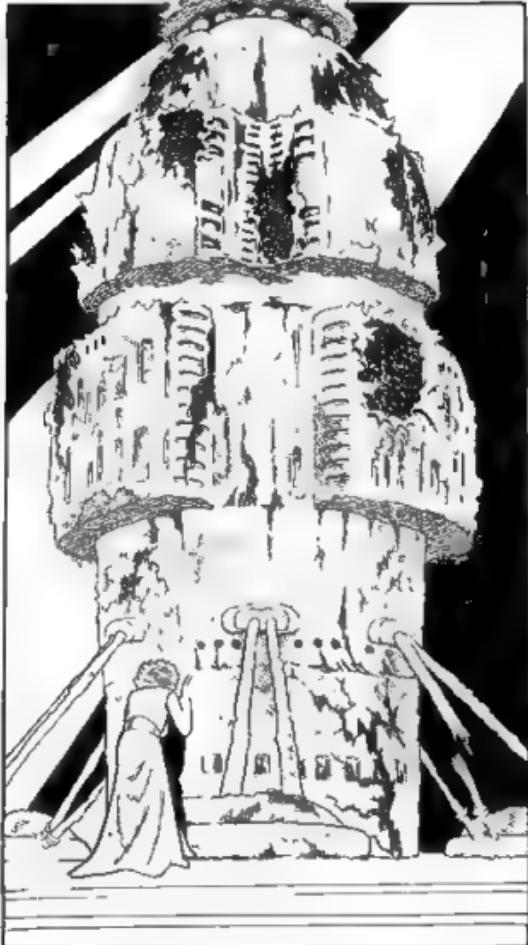
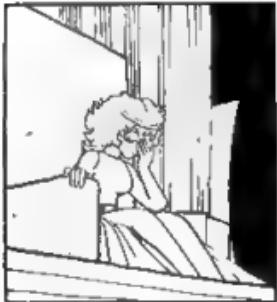


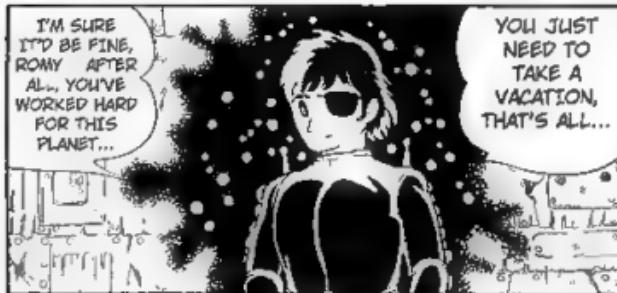
ROMY WAS REVERED AS QUEEN BY EVERYONE. STILL, SHE WAS UNABLE TO ESCAPE THE CREEPING EFFECTS OF AGE. IT THEREFORE BECAME HER PRACTICE TO REPEATEDLY RETURN TO HIBERNATION, WAKING FOR ONLY FOUR OR FIVE WEEKS AT A TIME.

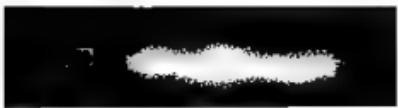


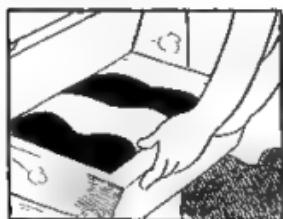
THE PEOPLE OF EDNA EVENTUALLY LEARNED HOW TO CREATE EXPLOSIVES. THEN, BY COMBINING DIFFERENT ORES FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF EDNA IT, THEY MADE THE EXPLOSIVES EVER MORE POWERFUL, AND USED THEIR NEW TECHNOLOGY TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE PLANET.

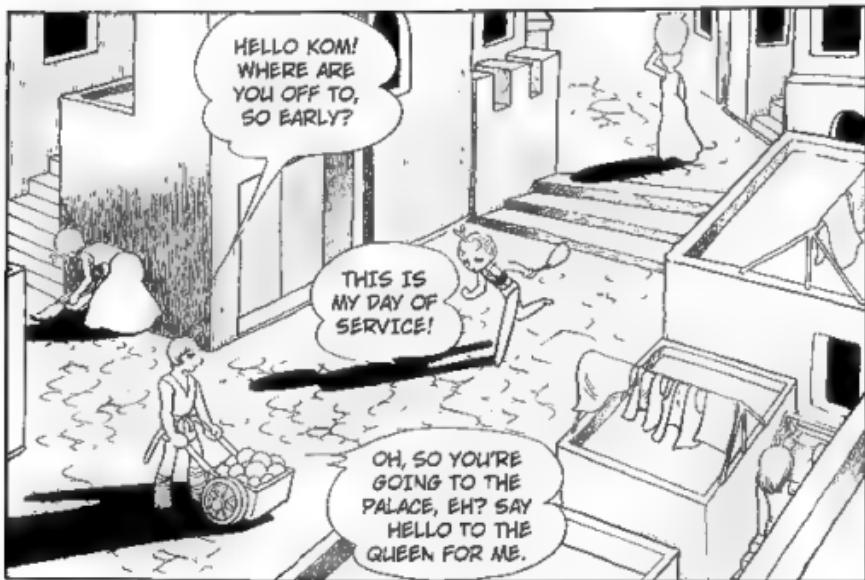


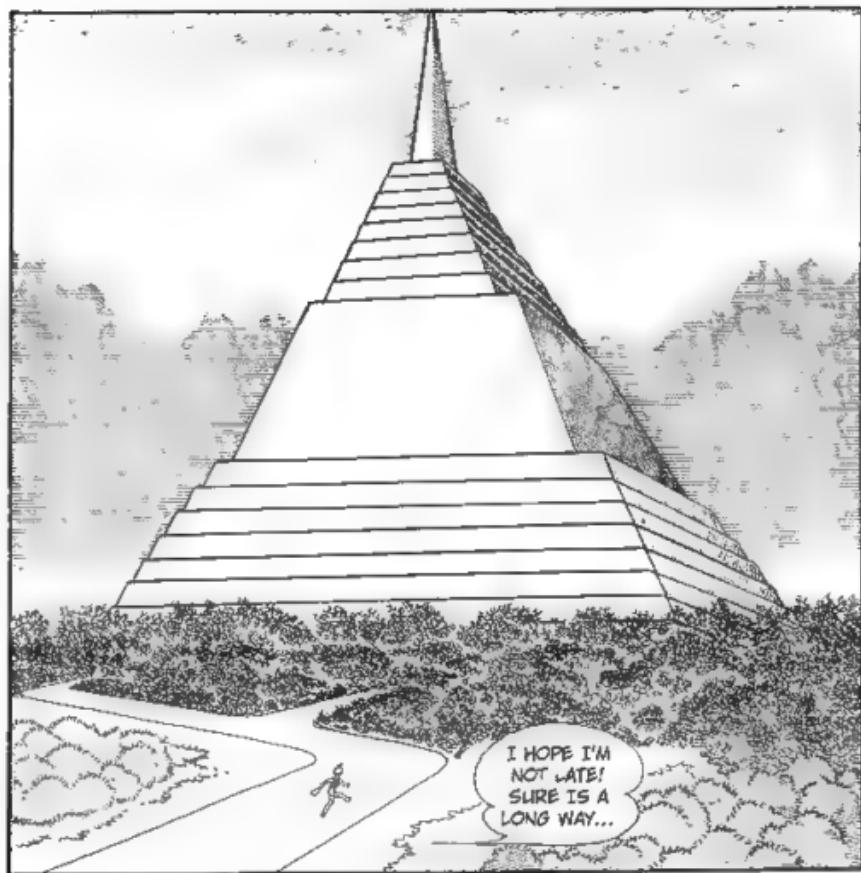


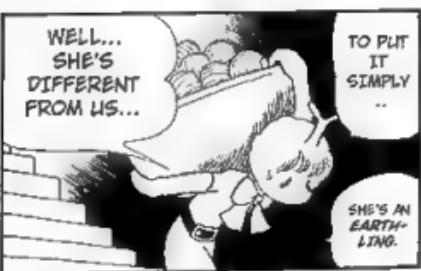
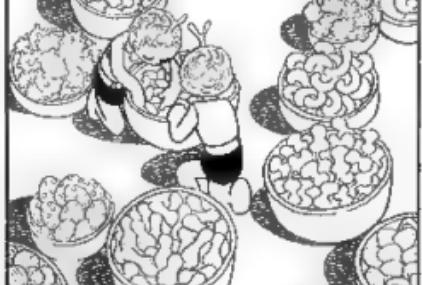
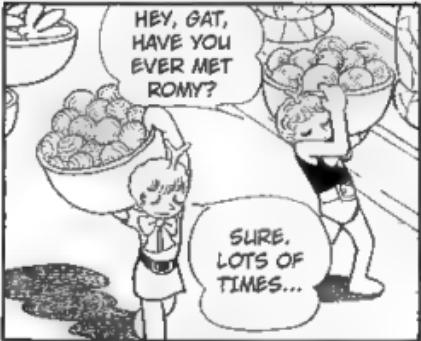


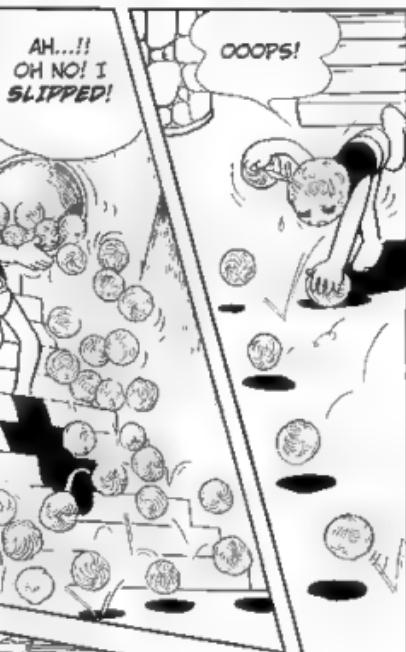
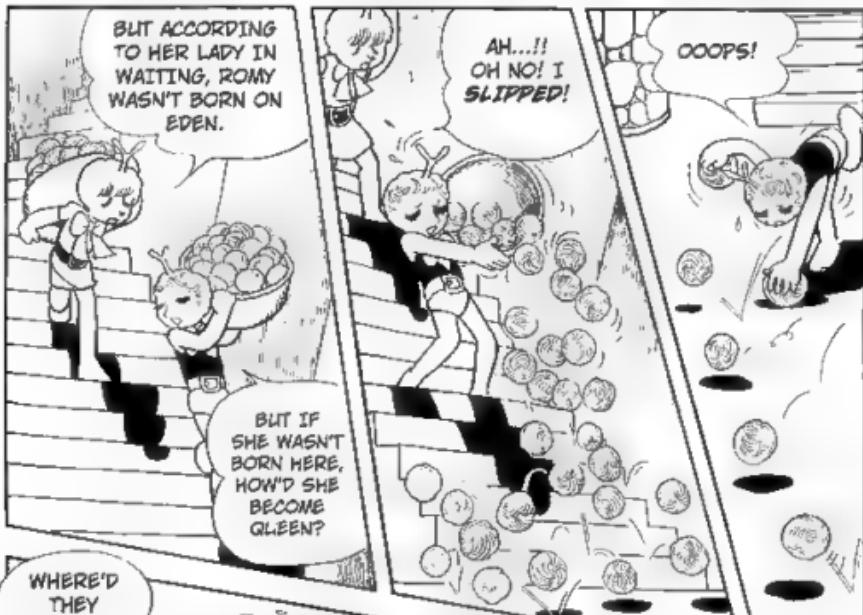
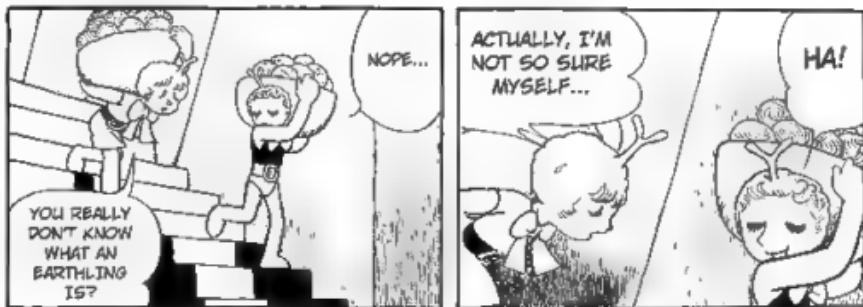


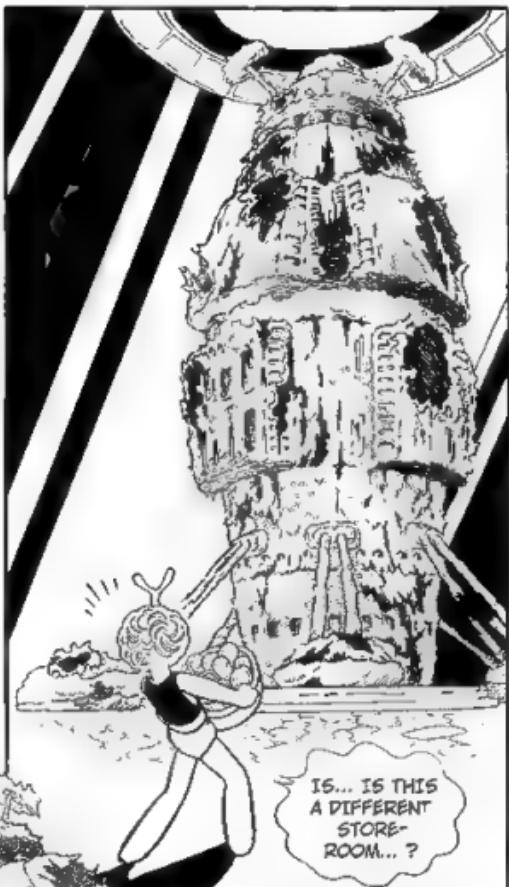


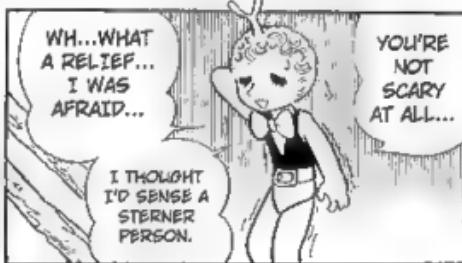
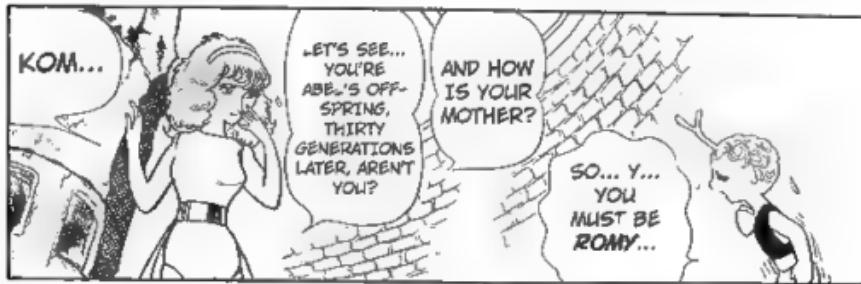
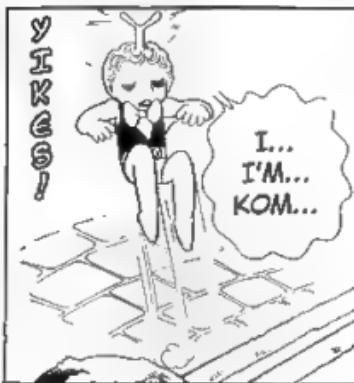
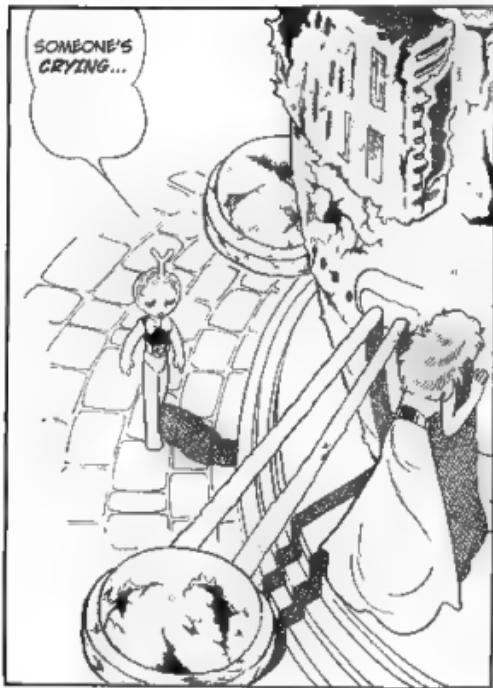


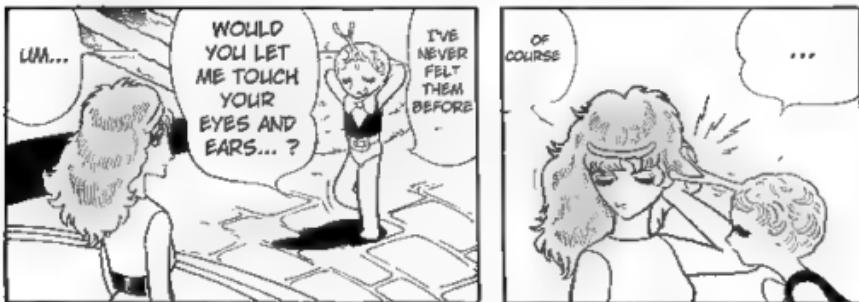


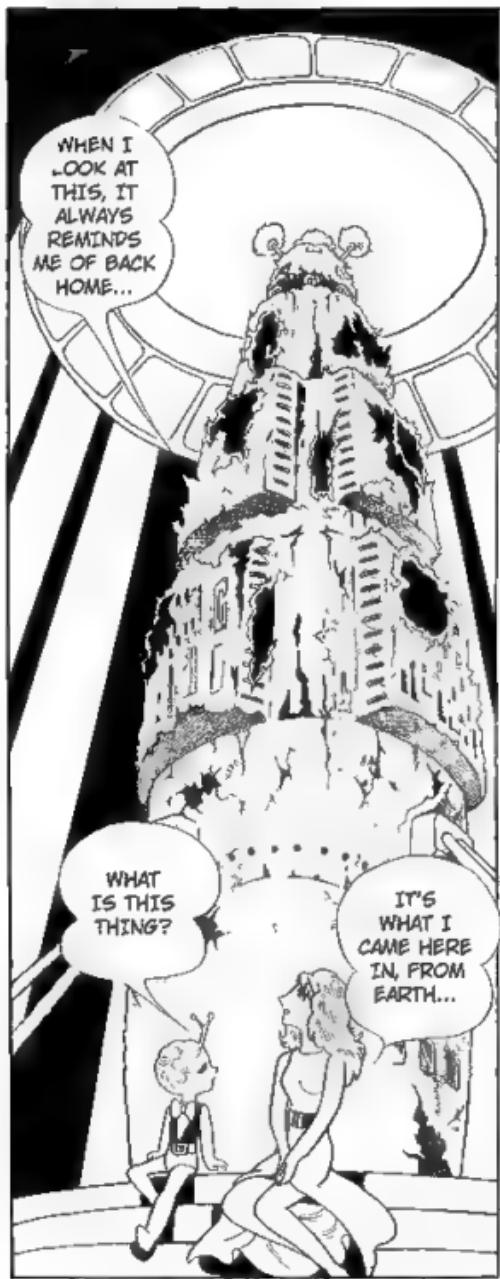


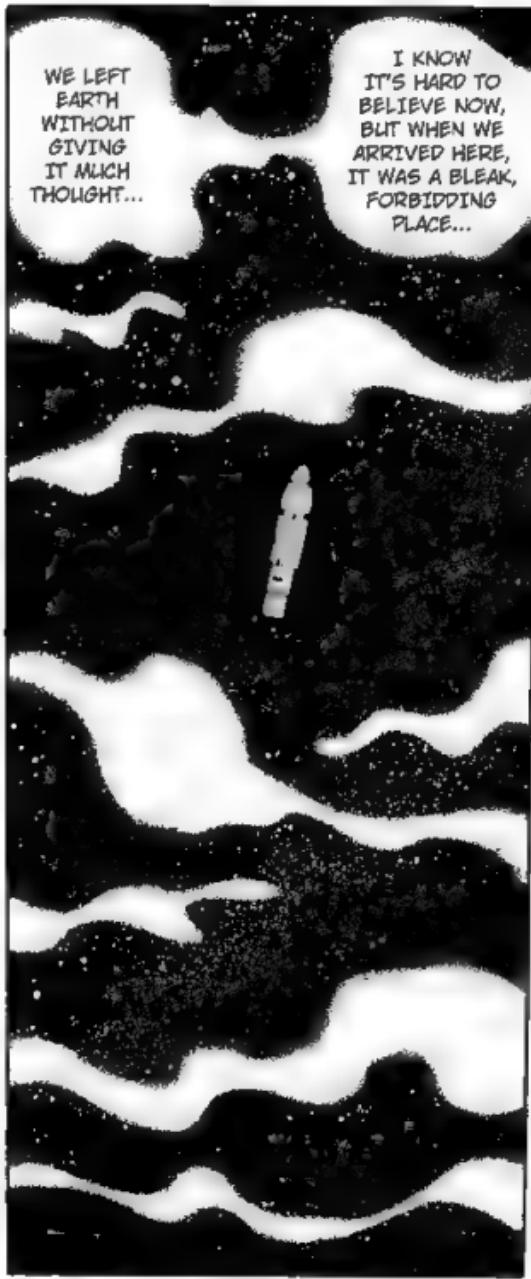




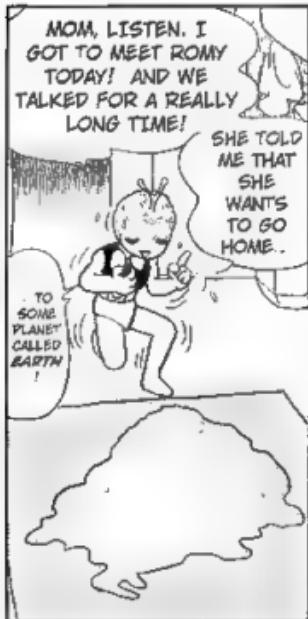
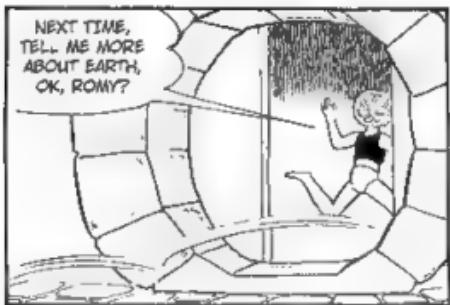


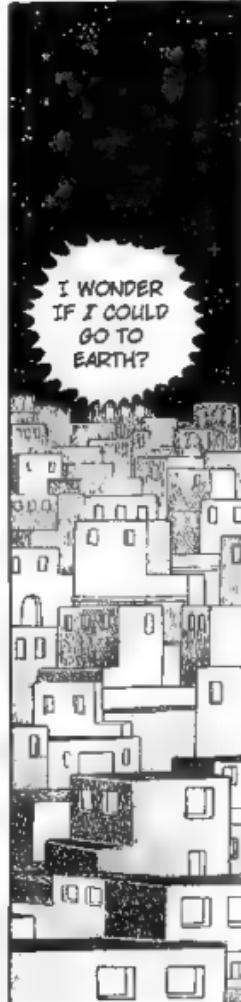
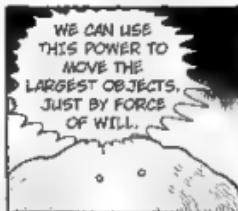


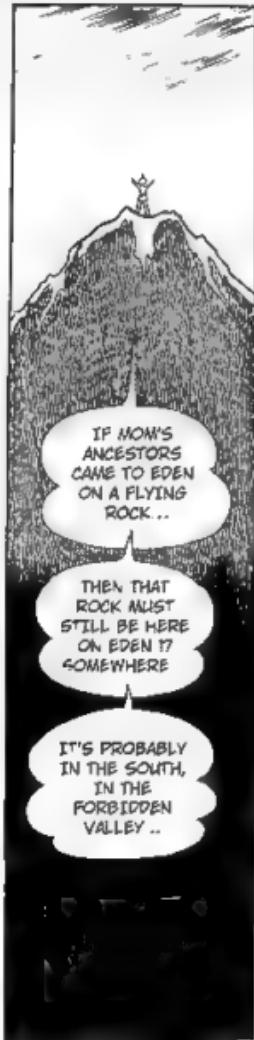


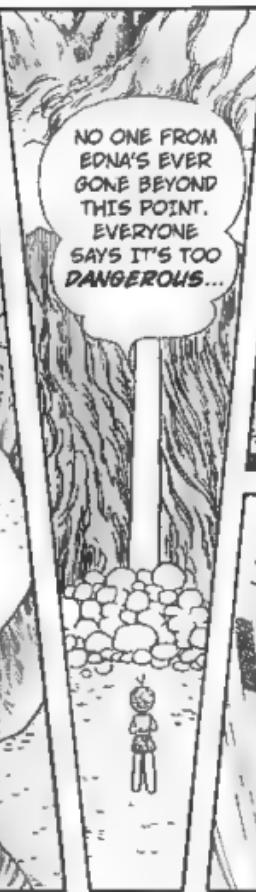


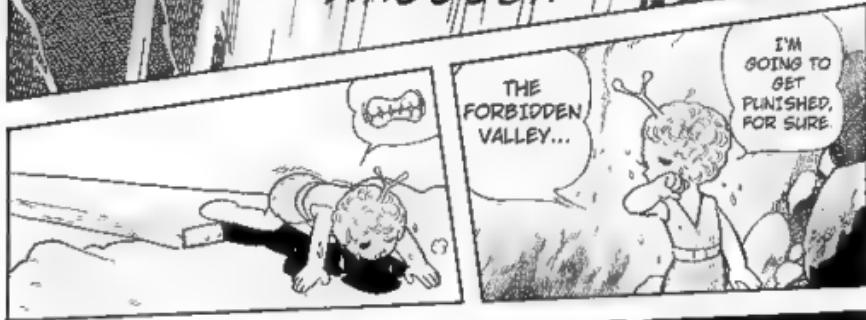




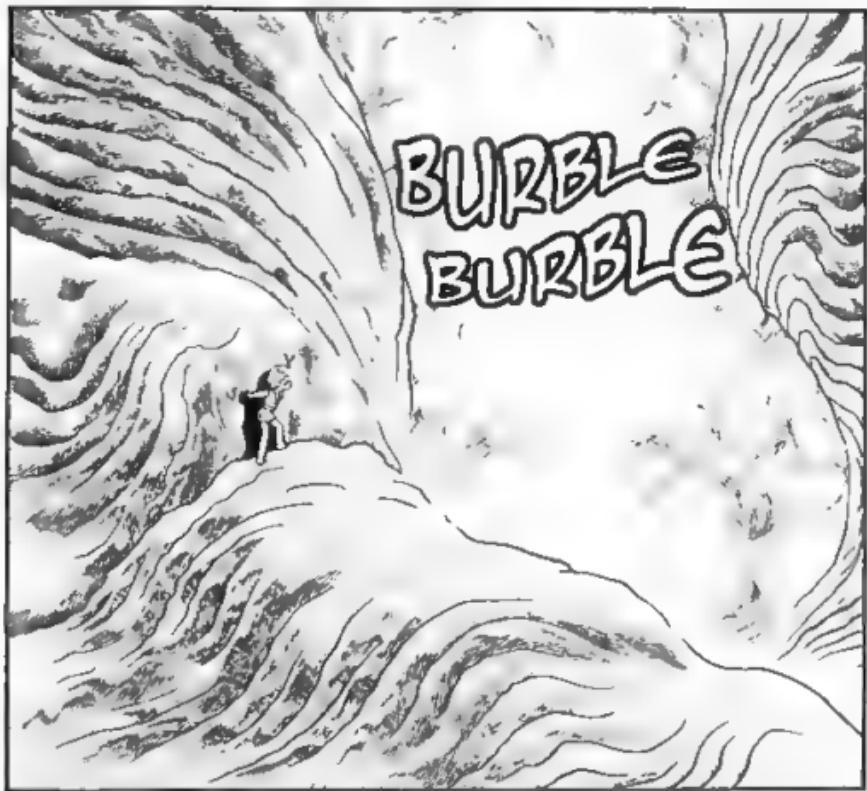


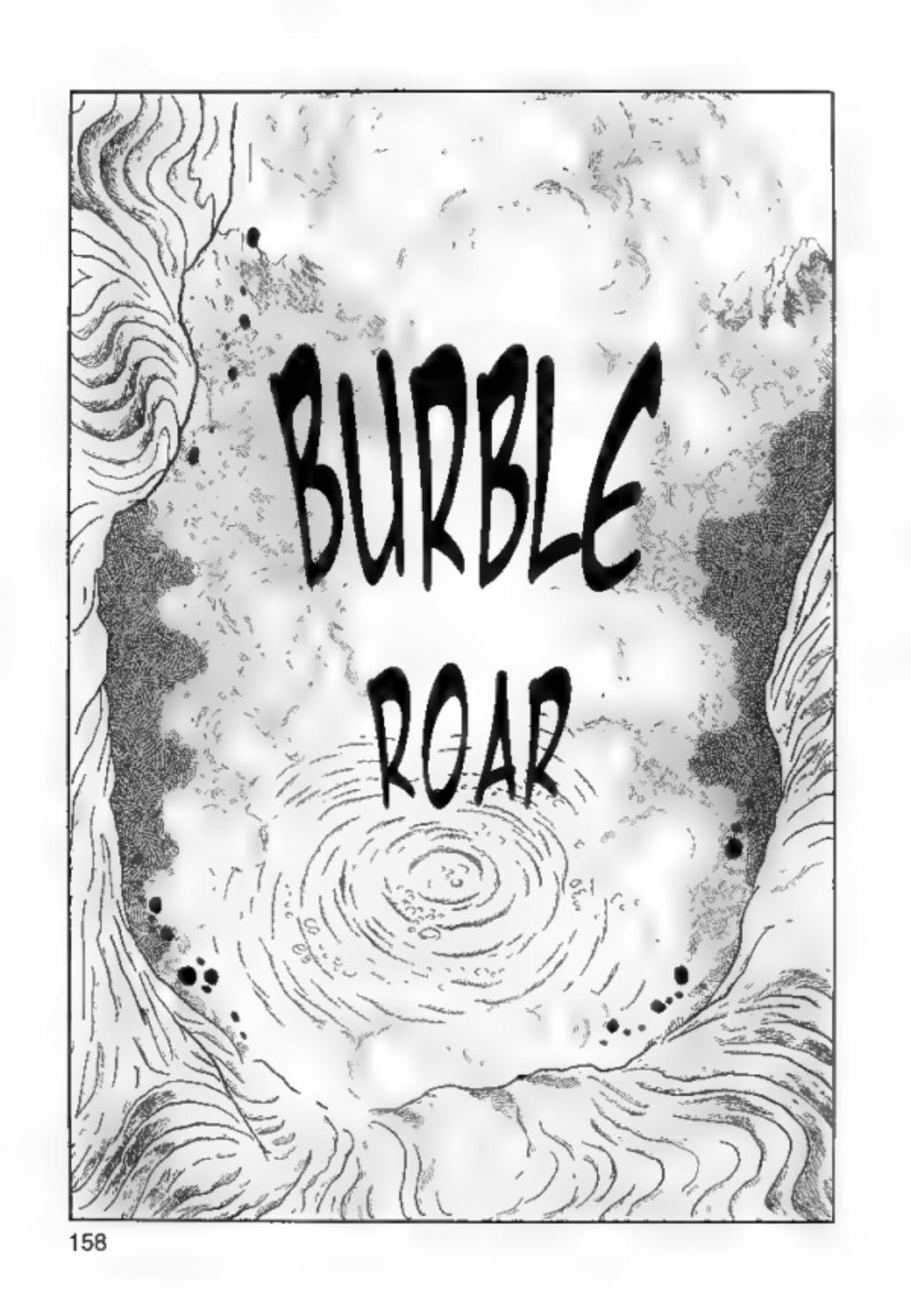




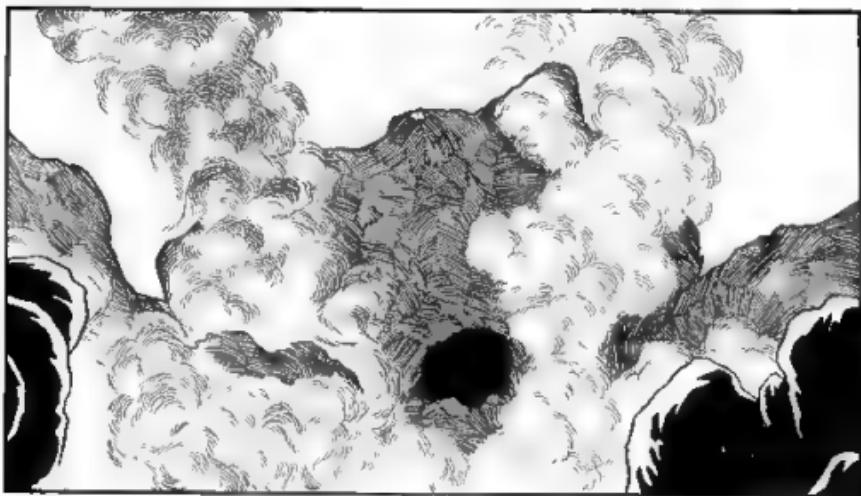


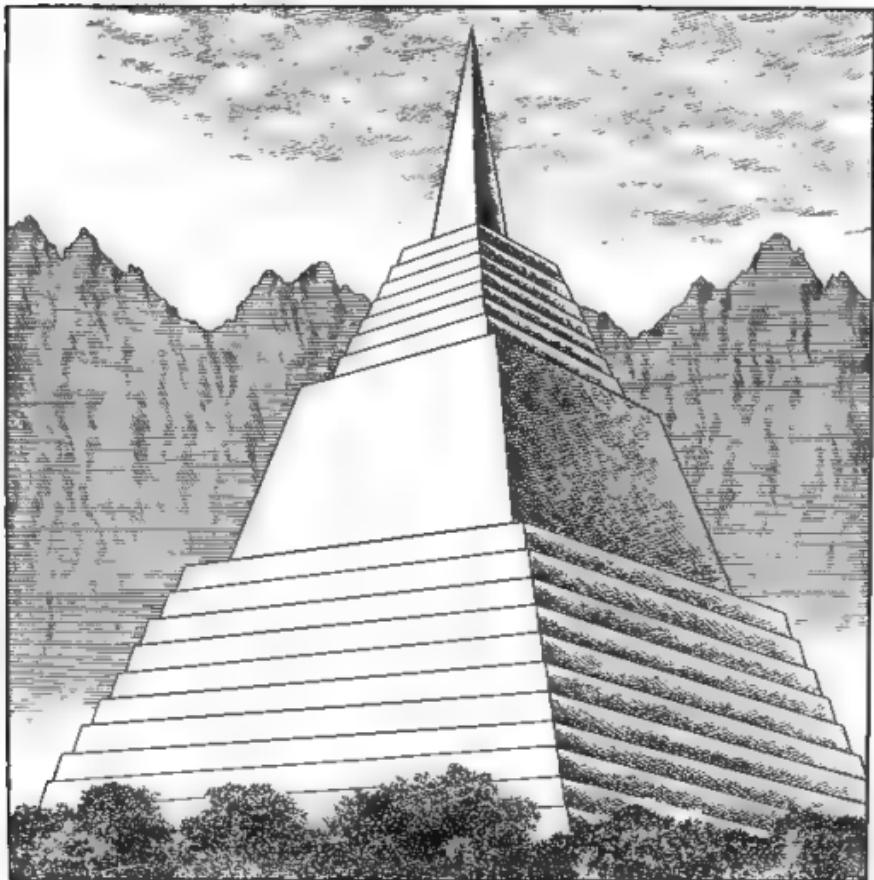






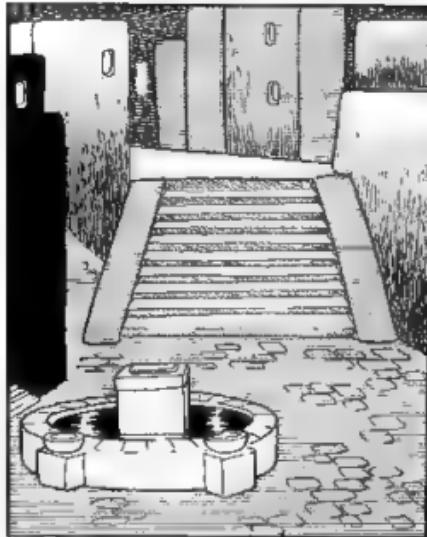
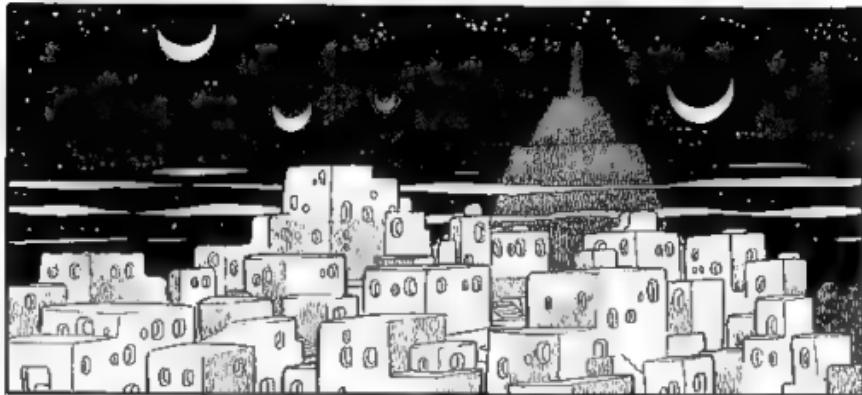
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ROAR

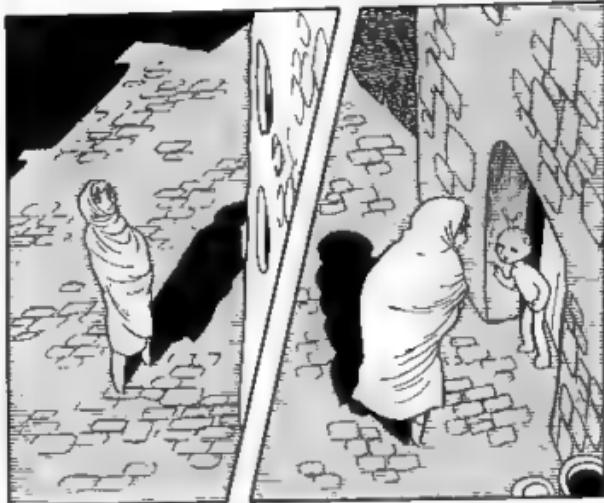
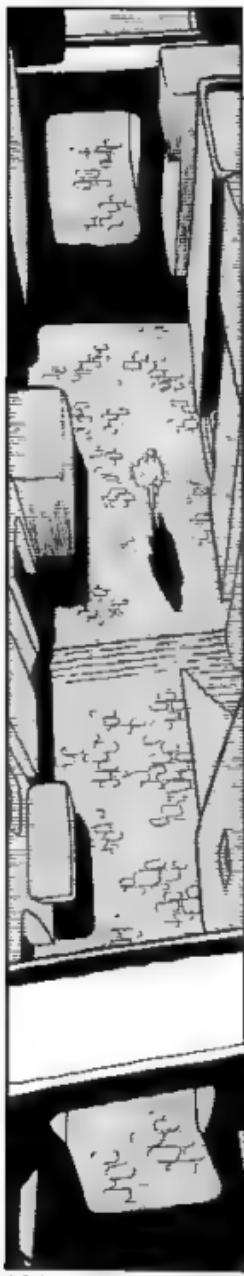


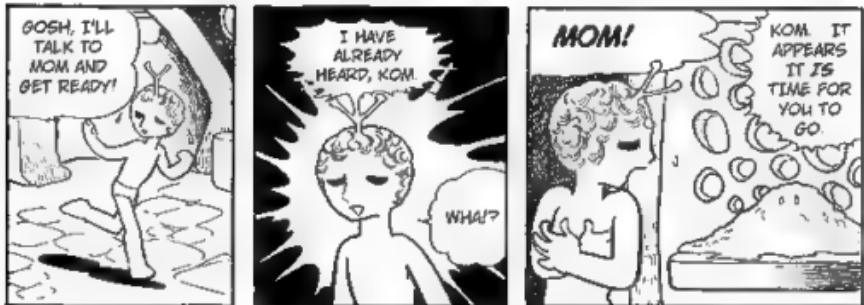


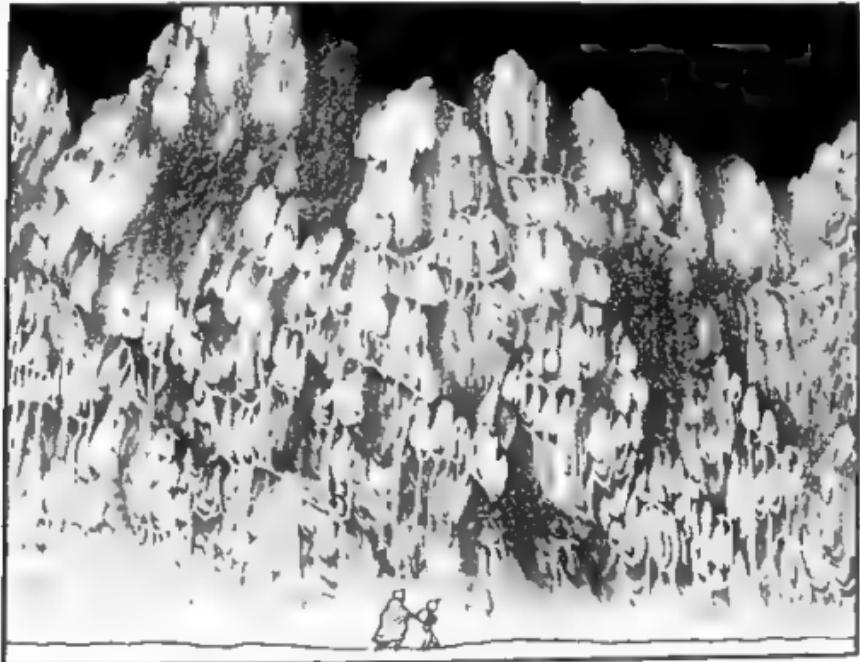


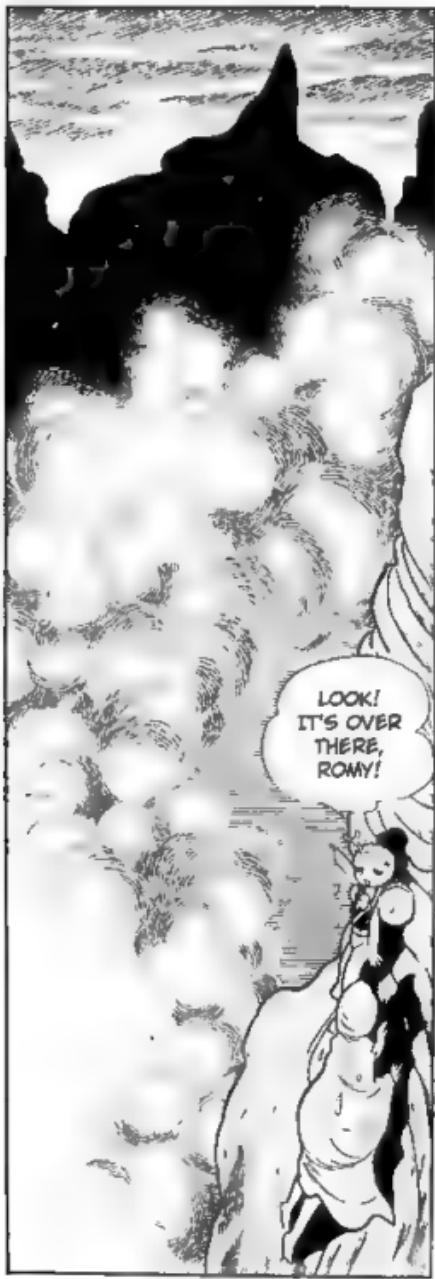


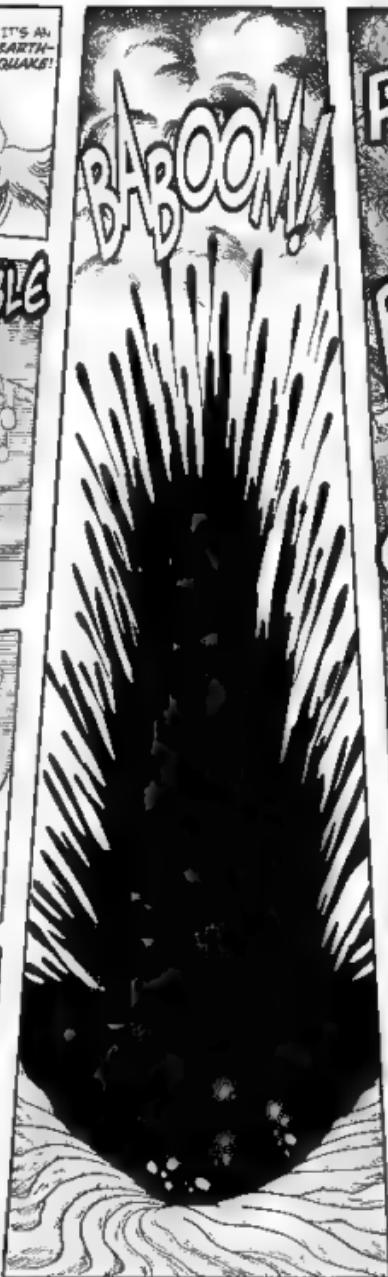
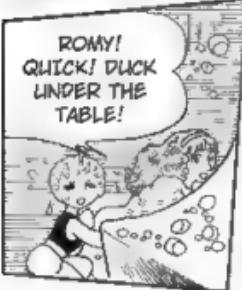
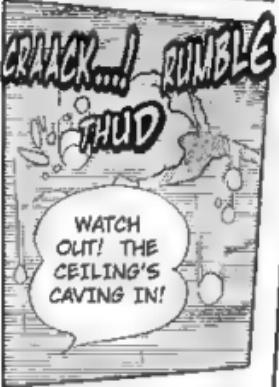


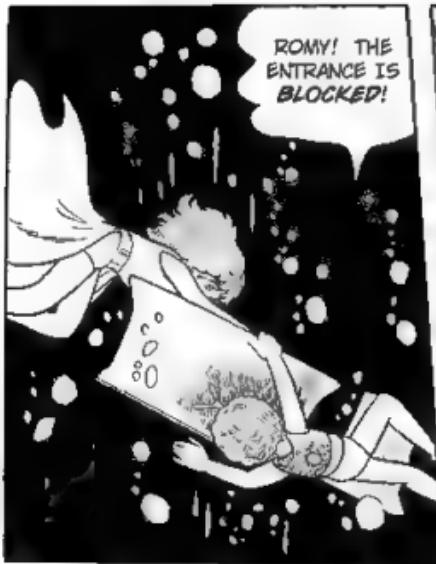


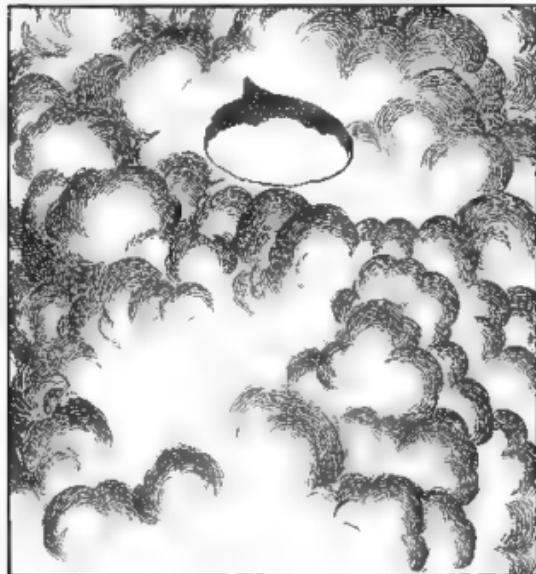




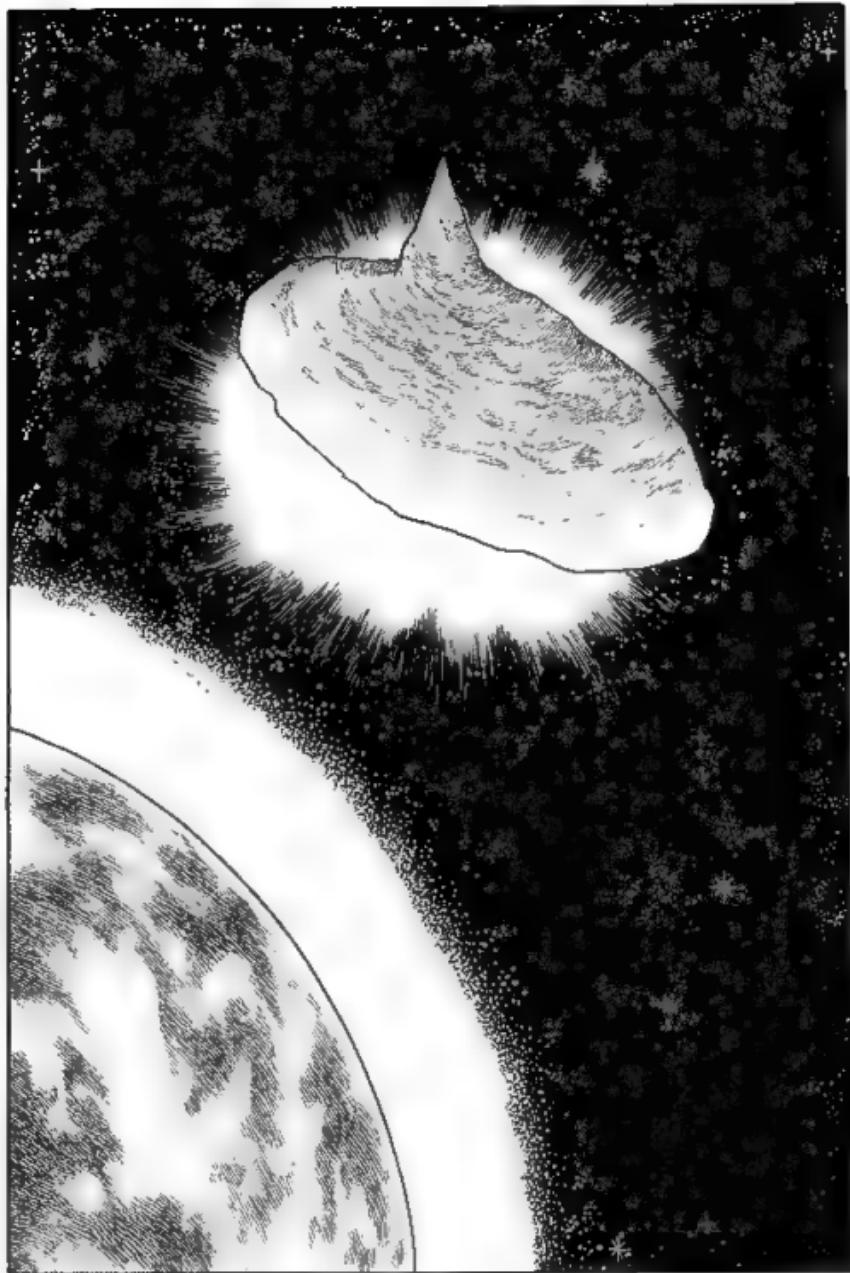


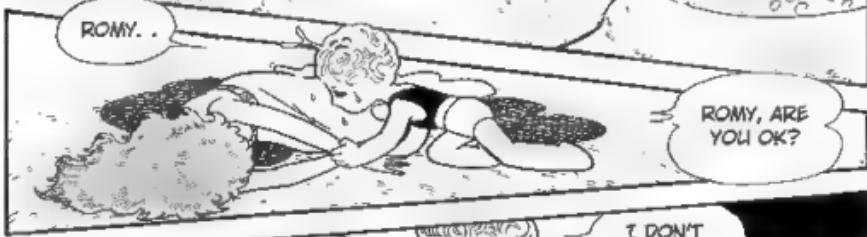


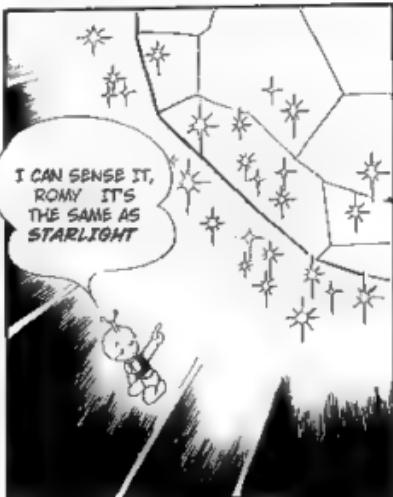
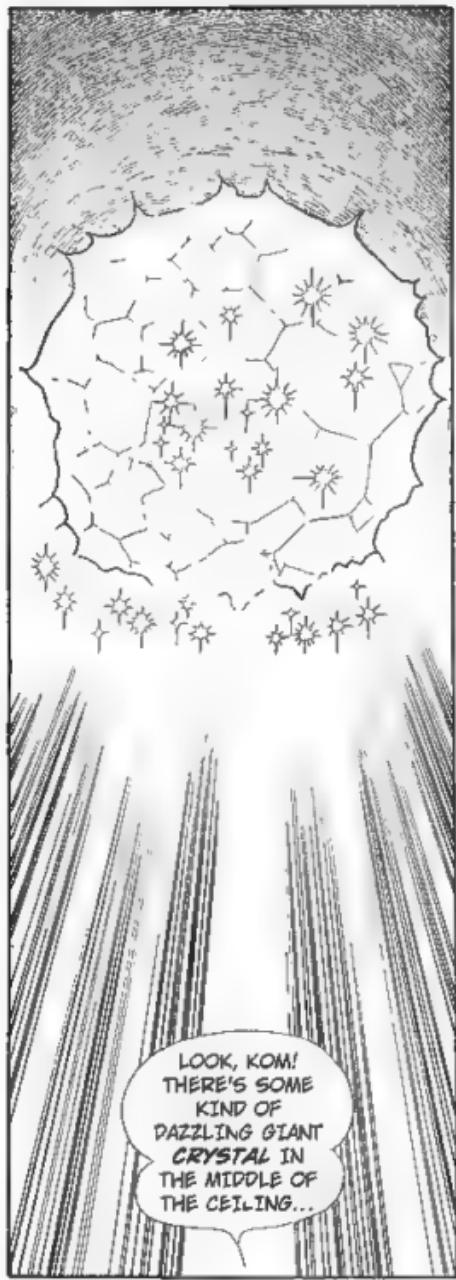


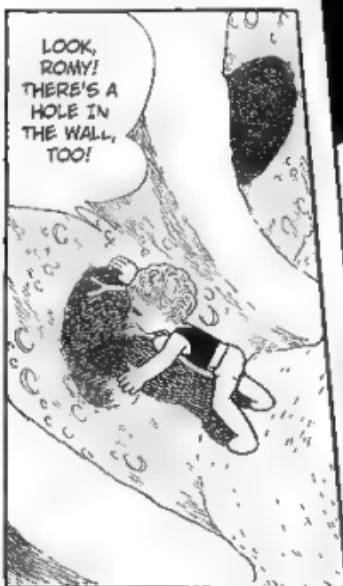


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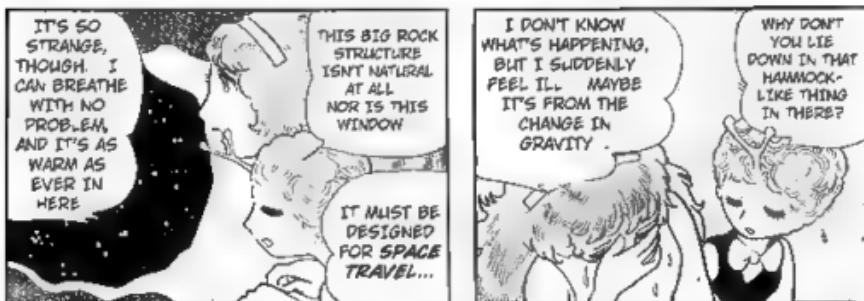


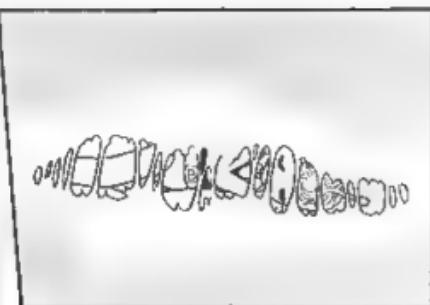
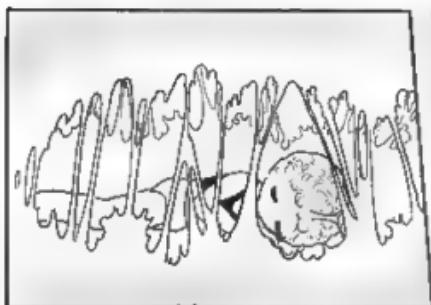
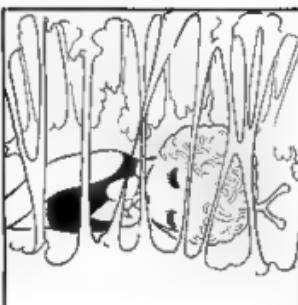




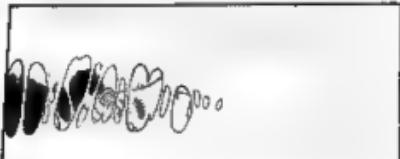


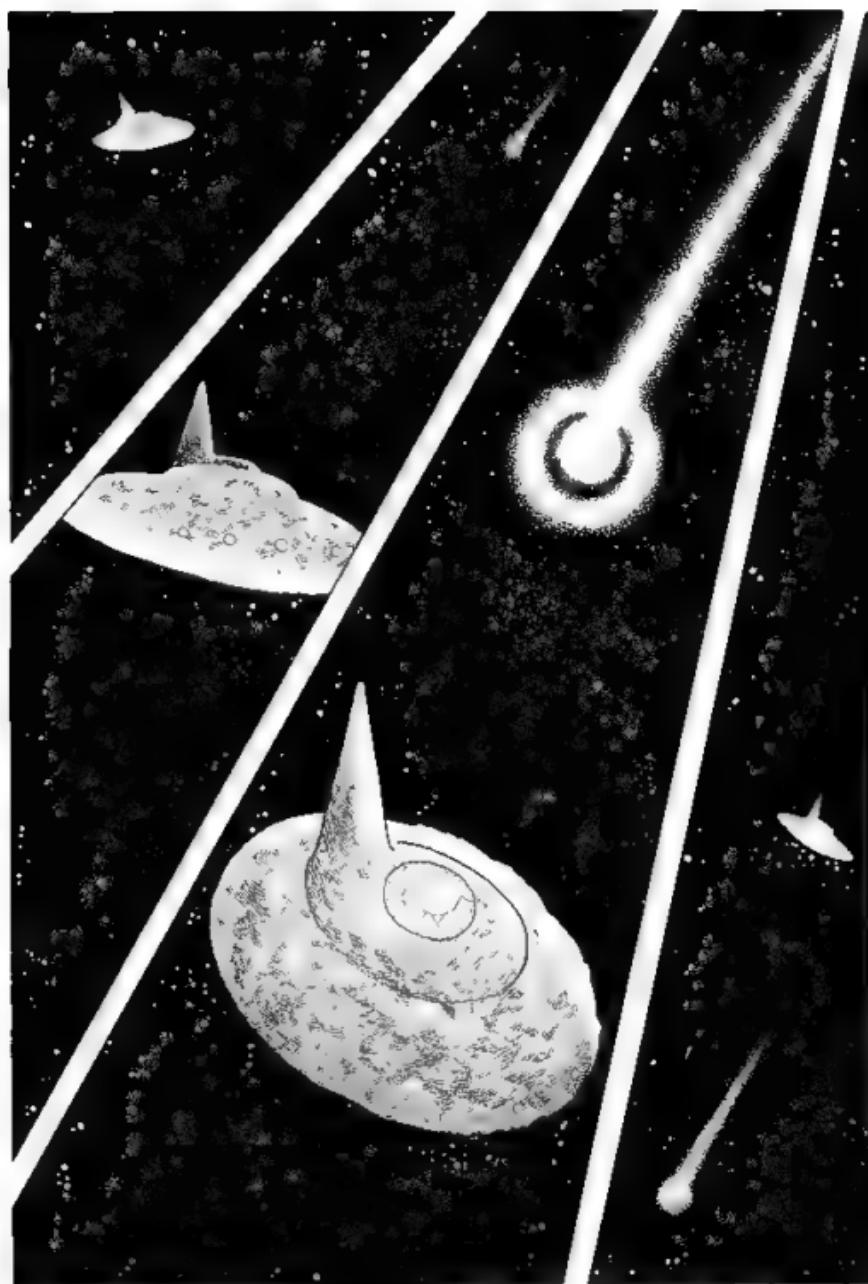
LOOK, KOM!
EDEN IT'S
DISAPPEARING
IN THE
DISTANCE

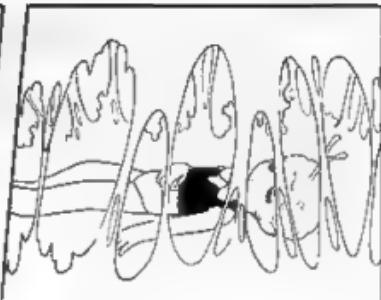
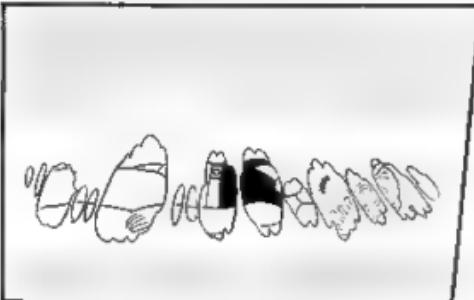




THE SOFT, WARM
HAMMOCK-LIKE
STRUCTURE WRAPPED
ITSELF AROUND KOM.
IT ACTED LIKE A
MOTHER, CAREFULLY
TUCKING A BLANKET
AROUND HER SLEEPING
CHILD, MAKING SURE
NOT TO DISTURB HIS
DEEP SLUMBER.



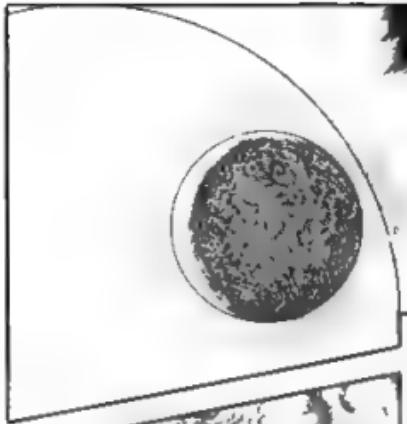




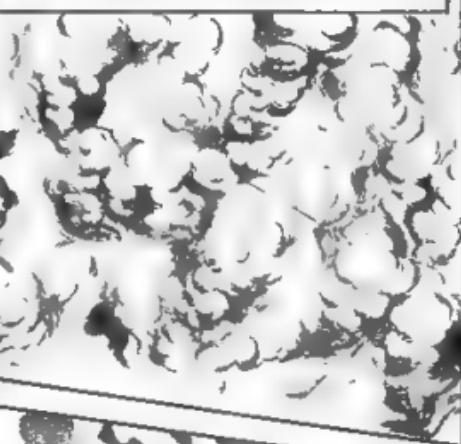


THE LITTLE ROCK QUIETLY MADE ITS WAY ACROSS THE UNIVERSE, ACCELERATING TO A FEARSOME SPEED FROM TIME TO TIME, IT DISAPPEARED INTO BLINDINGLY BRIGHT CLOUDS OF NEBULAR GASES. AT OTHER TIMES, IT FLEW FOR WHAT SEEMED AN ETERNITY THROUGH DARK STELLAR CLOUDS.

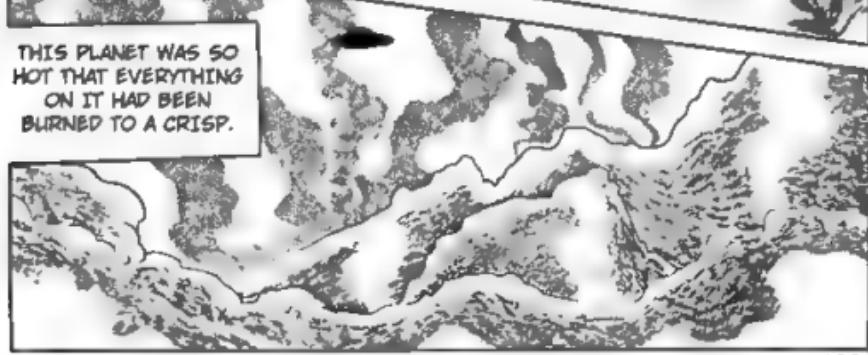
AND THEN, FINALLY...



...THE LITTLE SPACE-ROCK SEEMED TO BE DRAWN TOWARDS A PARTICULARLY BRIGHT STAR, BUT IT REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO ANY PARTICULAR GRAVITATIONAL FIELD. INSTEAD, IT CONTINUED TO SPEED ALONG, POWERED BY SOME STRANGE WILL THAT IGNORED ALL THE FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE AND EVENTUALLY, ROWY AND KOM APPROACHED A SMALL PLANET ORBITING THIS STAR.

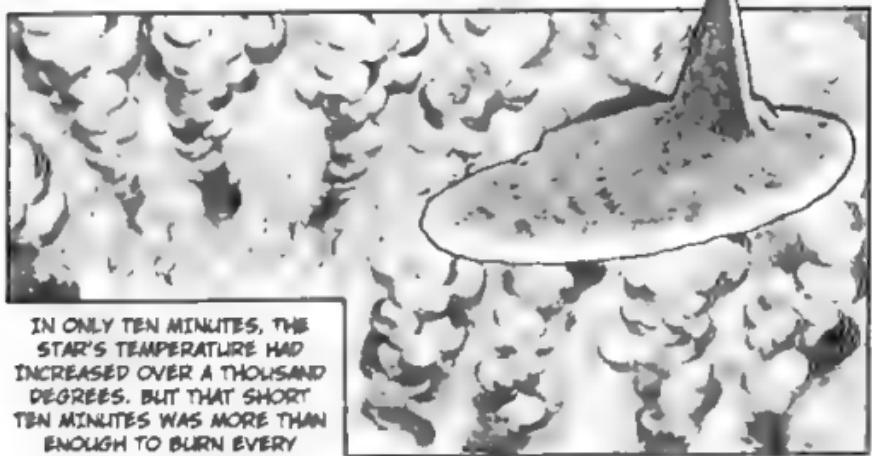


THIS PLANET WAS SO HOT THAT EVERYTHING ON IT HAD BEEN BURNED TO A CRISP.





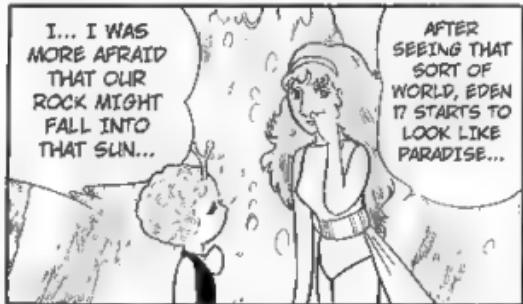
IF KOM HAD HAD EYES, HE MIGHT HAVE SEEN THE FLAMING RUBBLE OF CITIES MADE BY THE PLANET'S INHABITANTS, AND THE WRITHING FORMS OF PEOPLE, BURNING IN AGONY



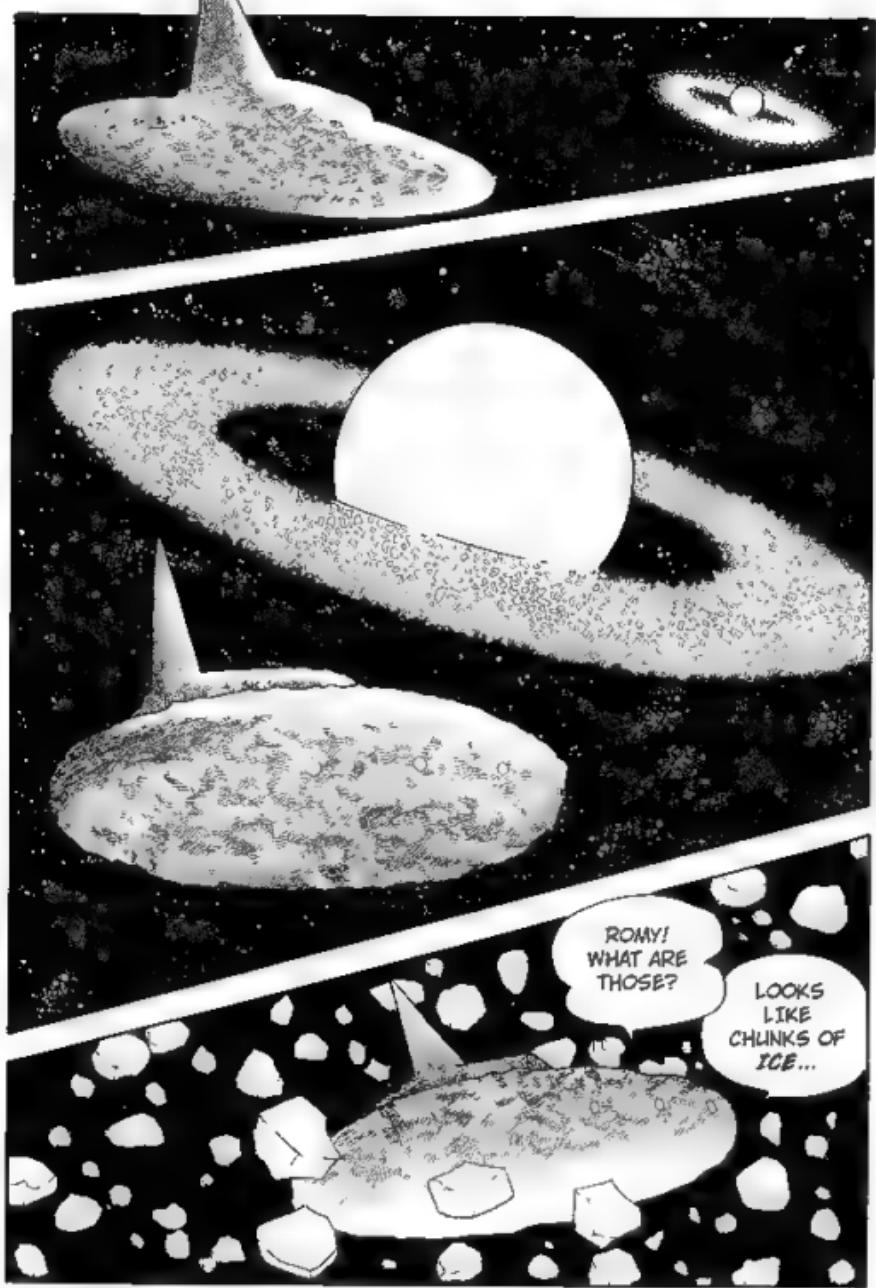
IN ONLY TEN MINUTES, THE STAR'S TEMPERATURE HAD INCREASED OVER A THOUSAND DEGREES. BUT THAT SHORT TEN MINUTES WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH TO BURN EVERY PLANET THAT ROTATED AROUND IT INTO OBLIVION.



BY SHEER COINCIDENCE, OUR SPACE TRAVELERS WERE WITNESSES TO THE FINAL AGONY OF ONE OF THESE PLANETS.









LOOK AT THE SURFACE
OF THAT PLANET,
KOM.. LOOKS LIKE
IT'S COVERED WITH
ICICLES'

BUT WHERE
DID THE ICE
COME FROM?

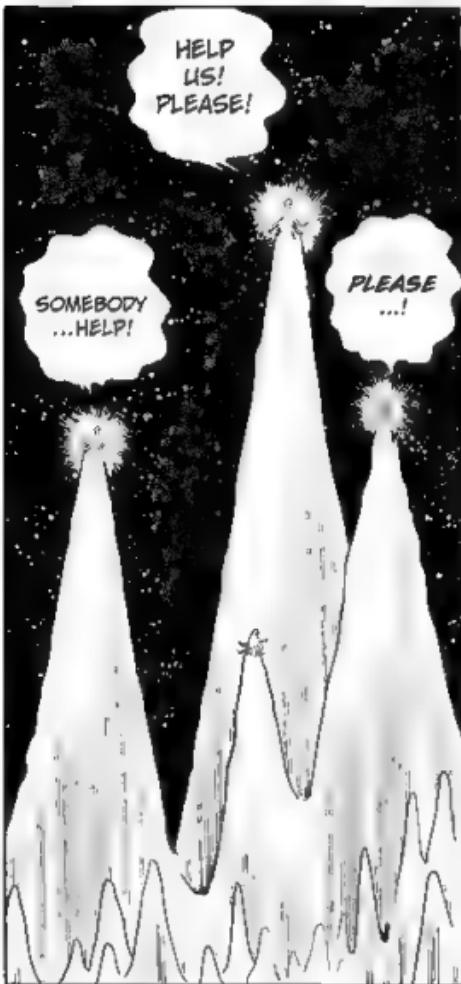


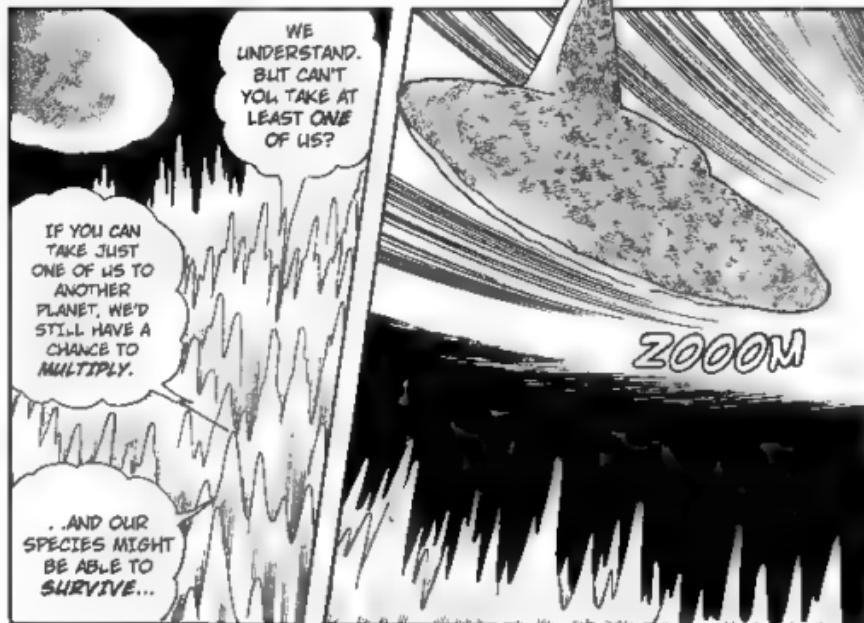
ICE IS
FORMED
FROM A
FROZEN GAS
OR LIQUID,
RIGHT?

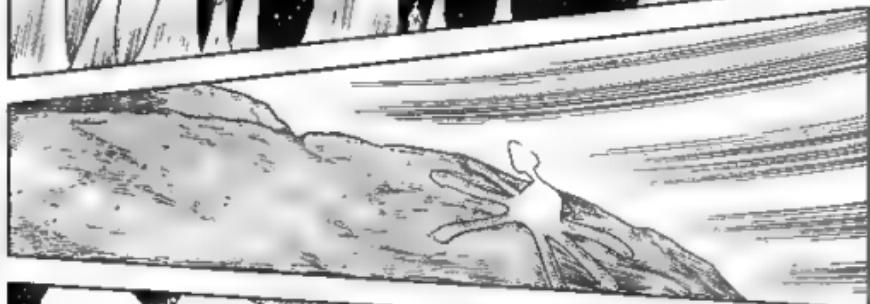
RIGHT...

SO IN ANCIENT
TIMES, THIS
PLANET MAY
HAVE HAD
WATER AND AN
ATMOSPHERE...

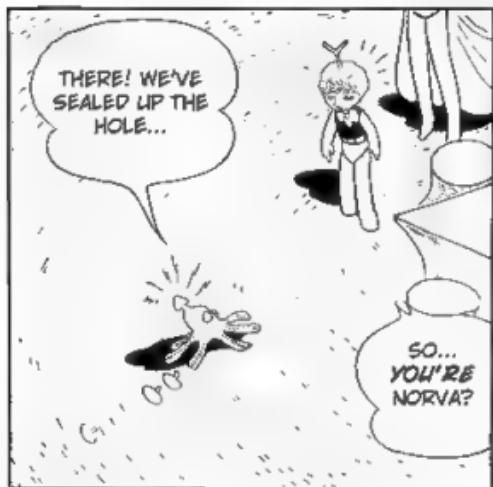
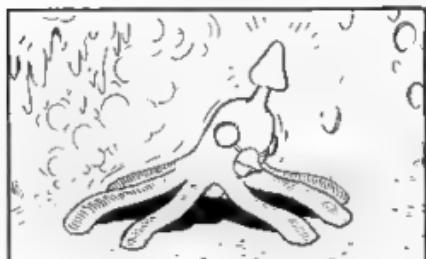
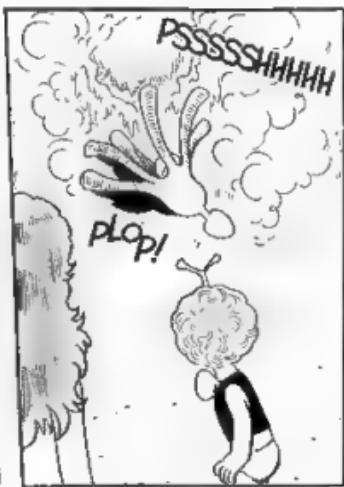
AND IT MUST
HAVE HAD A
SUN, TOO...

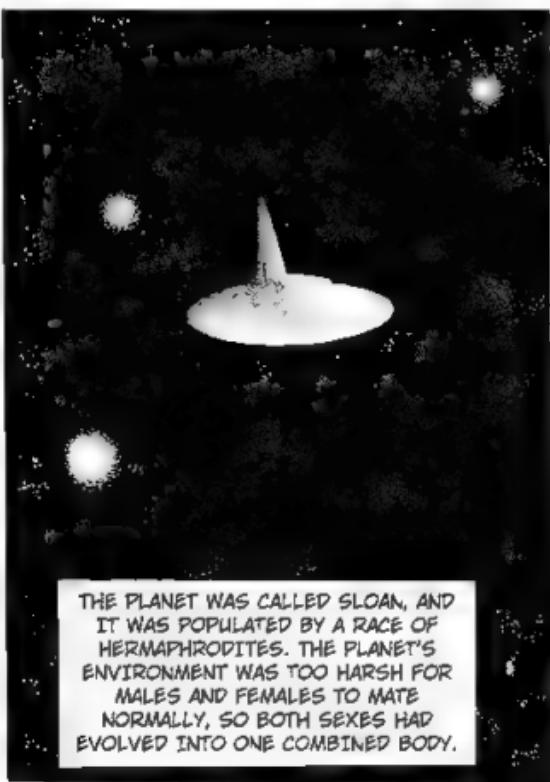


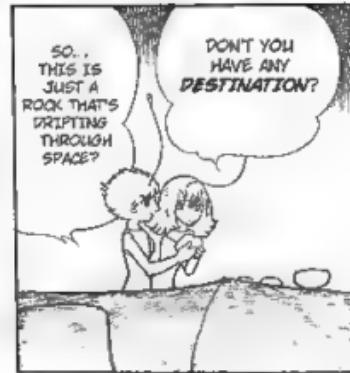
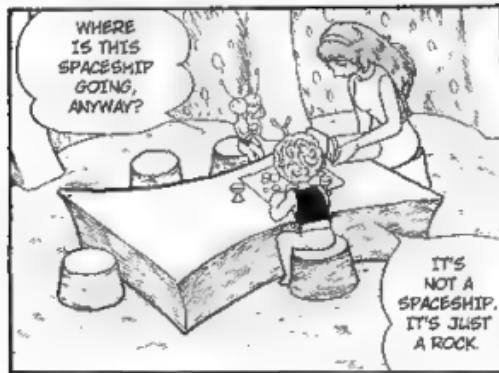
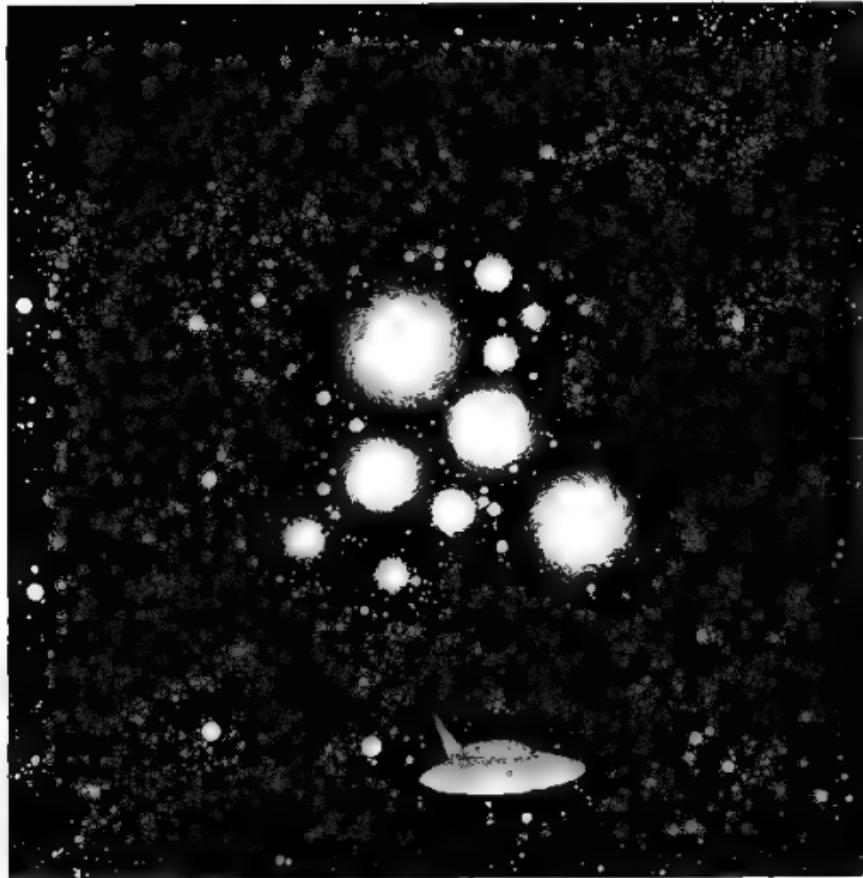


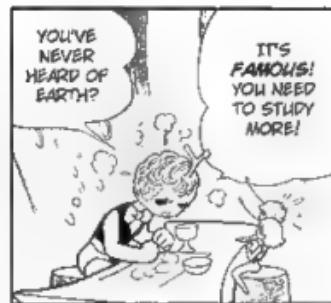


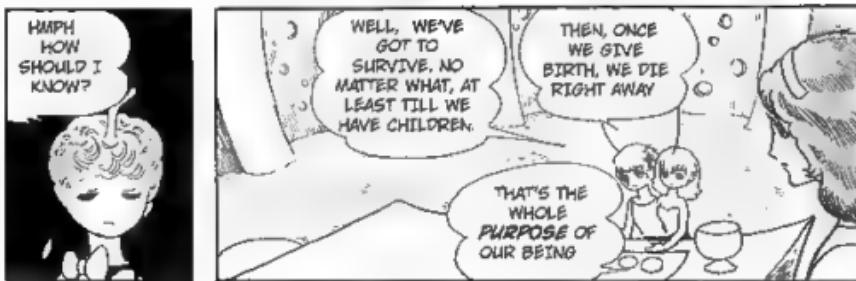
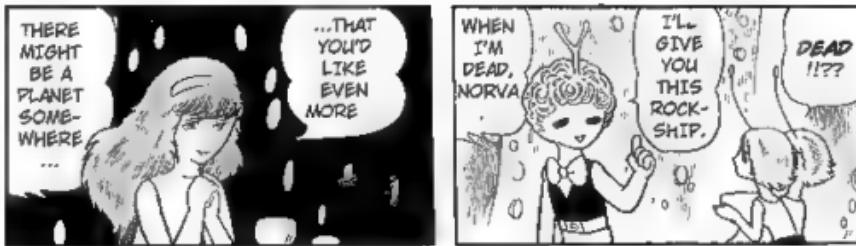


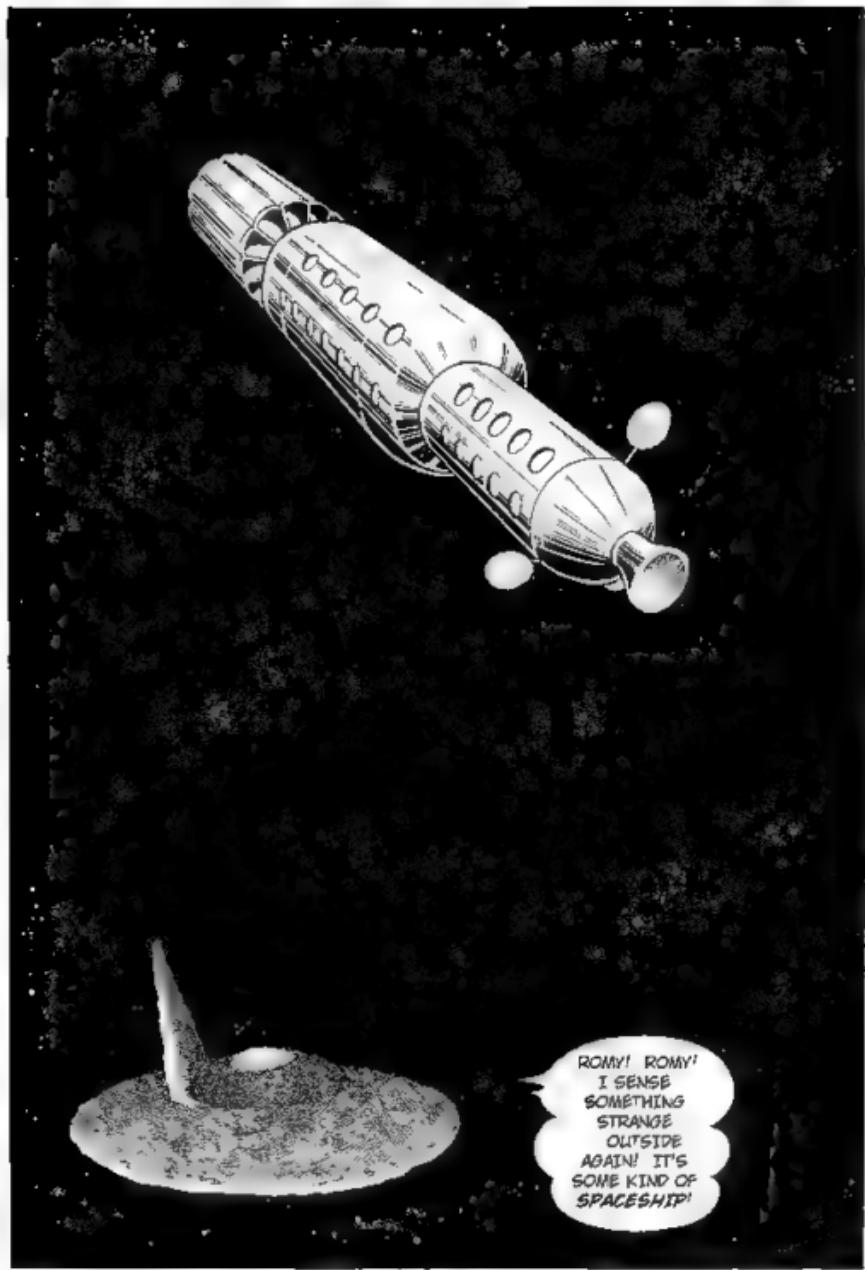




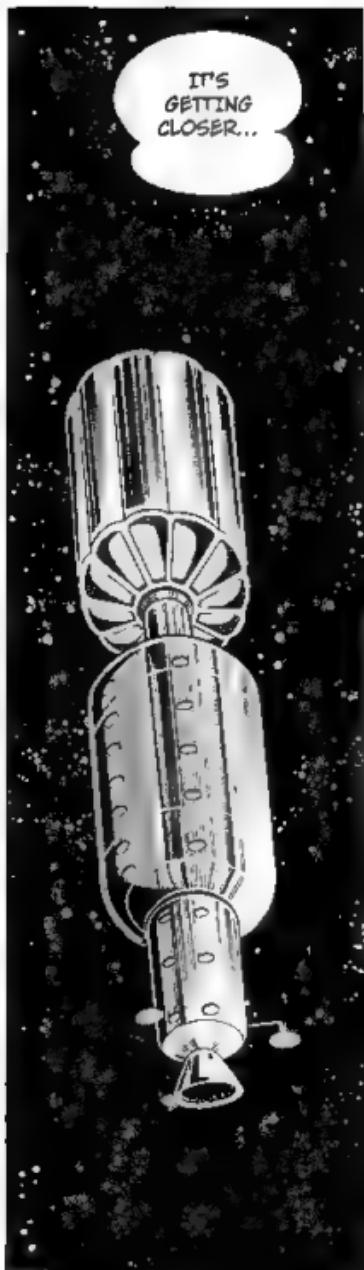


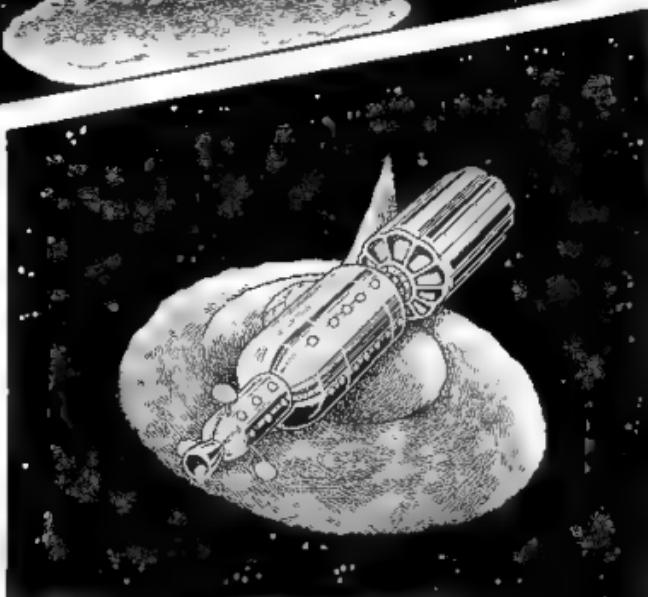
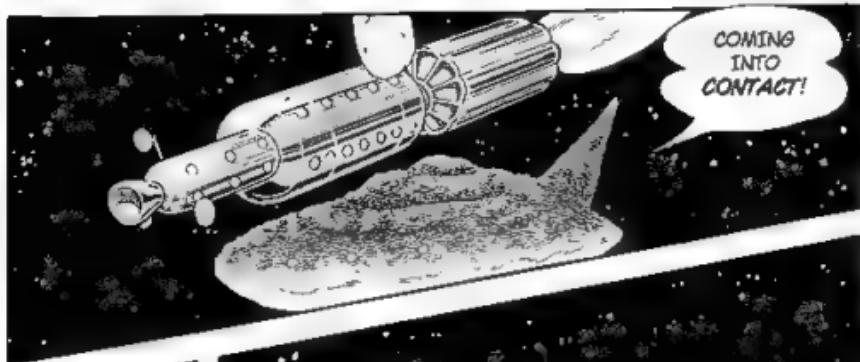


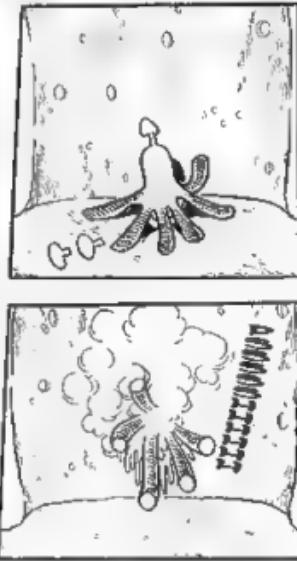
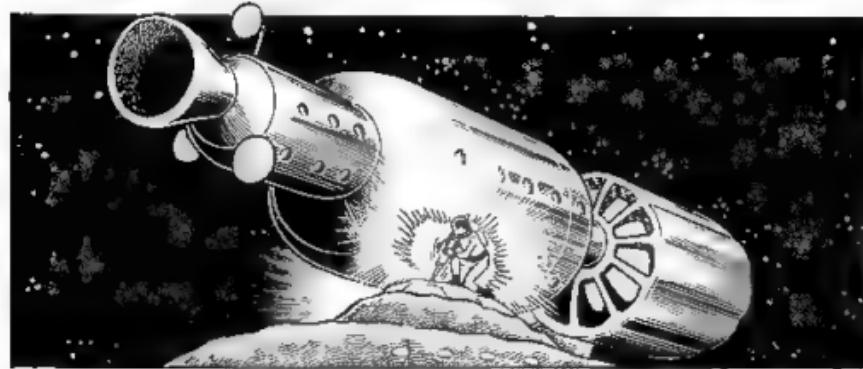


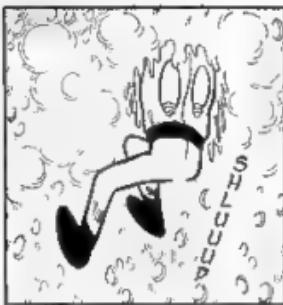
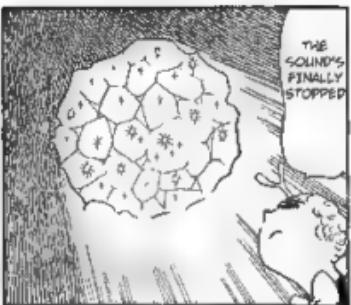


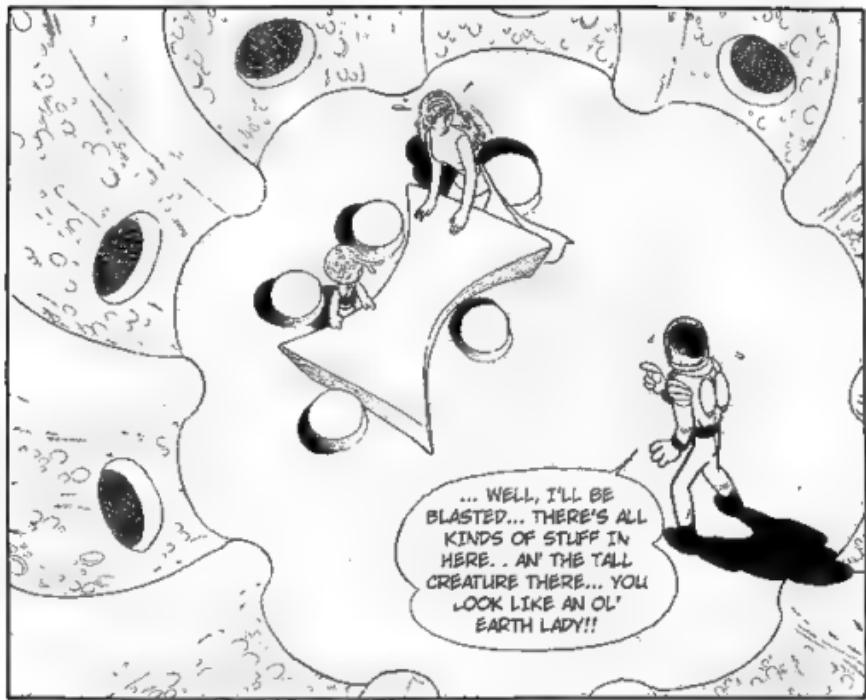
ROMY! ROMY!
I SENSE
SOMETHING
STRANGE
OUTSIDE
AGAIN! IT'S
SOME KIND OF
SPACESHIP!

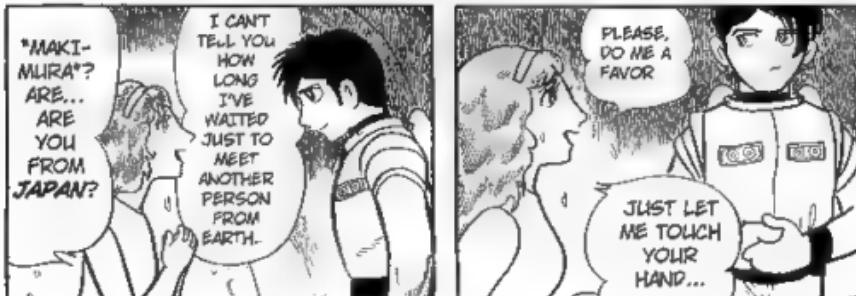










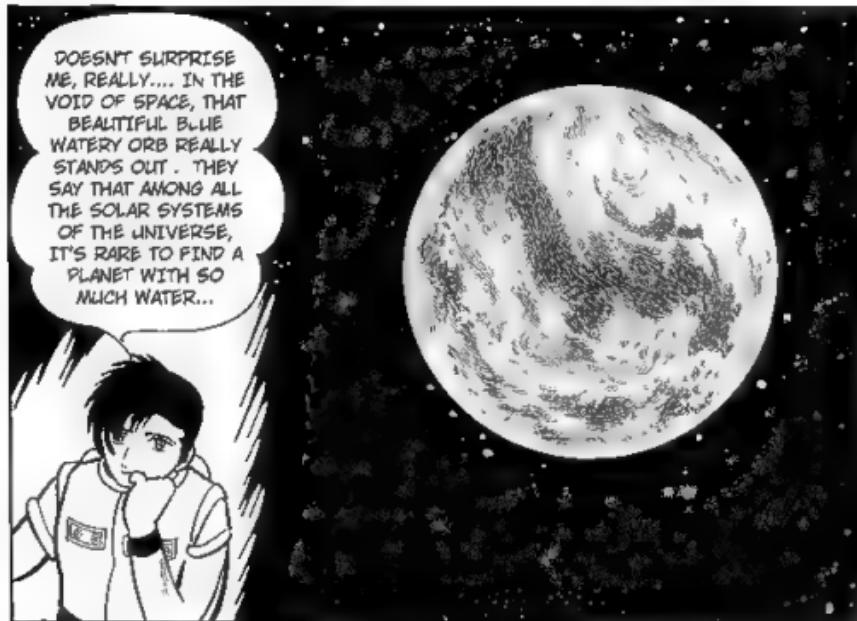




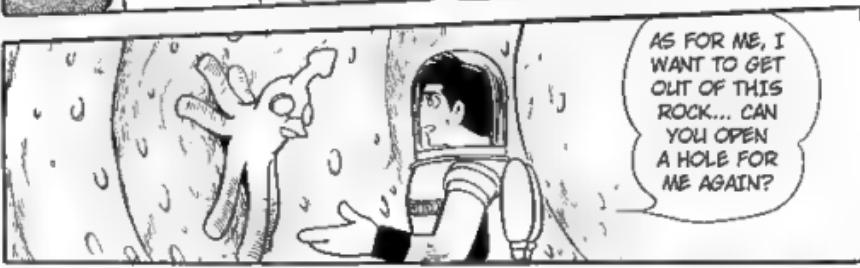
AH, I GET IT . . . THE NOSTALGIA-HOMESICK STUFF RIGHT? IT'S AN ILLNESS ALL THE COLONISTS GET AT SOME POINT

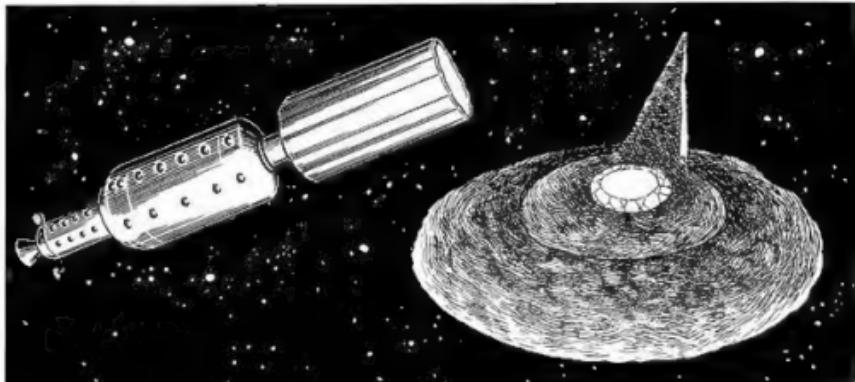


SO IT'S NO BIG DEAL TO ME.... BUT I KNOW THAT COLONISTS GET AWFULLY LONELY FOR THE OLD PLANET...









I SECURED
MY SHIP TO
THIS ROCK!
IT CAN'T
JUST DRIFT
OFF LIKE
THAT!!

BLAST IT!
WHAT'D
I DO
WRONG?!

HEY! WE'VE
GOTTA STOP
THAT SHIP!
YOU'VE GOTTA
GO AFTER IT!

THIS ROCK FLIES
ON ITS OWN. WE
COULDN'T CONTROL
IT, EVEN IF WE
WANTED TO.

WHAT?!

